FCα FLOWER COMICS α
flowersフラワーコミックスアルファ

坂道のアポロン 8

小玉ユキ
Kodama Yuki

FLOWER COMICS α
flowers

坂道のアポロン8 小玉ユキ

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flowers
フラワーコミックス
アルファ
FCα

作品紹介

★1960年代後半。転入生の薫は、不良の千太郎と出会い、ジャズを通じ友情を育む。同級生の律子に、一度は振られた薫だが、彼女を支え続け恋が実る。文化祭での演奏を引き受けた、薫と千太郎。だが千太郎の胸中に異変が…!?

坂道のアポロン 8

小玉ユキ

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The story so far

In the year 1966, Kaoru transferred into a local school. He meets Sentarou and is introduced to Jazz, and this completely changes his high school life! He confesses to Ritsuko while knowing of her feelings for Sentarou, so he was rejected. Even so, he decides to support Ritsuko's feelings.

After moving up to the next grade, Kaoru and Sentarou end up in different classes. They meet with a series of misunderstandings, but made up after an impromptu performance at the culture festival! In contrast to his painful feelings for Ritsuko, his friendship with Sen deepens.

Sen gets into a fight with Jun-nii, who had returned from Tokyo, because of Yurika. He loses all hope upon seeing Yurika in Jun-nii's room. At that point, Kaoru tries to hint at Ritsuko's feelings for Sen, but both Ritsuko's and Sen's feelings were not what Kaoru expected...!?

At the end of the year, Sen refuses to see Jun-nii off. But with Kaoru's persuasion, they decide to have a serious battle through a Jazz session for the last time.

One day, Kaoru finds a pair of handmade gloves from Ritsuko on the piano. He tells himself not to get his hopes up... And was not able to come to terms with his feelings. He runs a fever and faints, and when Ritsuko comes over to visit, he confessed to her again, and was accepted this time.

It is the spring of their third year. Even though they are now in a relationship, Kaoru couldn't help but feel nervous, so he could only hold her hand even by the end of summer... However, when the three of them goes to the beach, he finally faces Ritsuko as a lover.

Matsuoka requests for Kaoru and Sen to play jazz at the next culture festival. At the same time, Sen's dad announces his return. Sen, who wasn't sure of his place around his dad, quietly packs his bags and...!?

Character Introduction

Nishimi Kaoru

Third year.

Transferred from the city of Yokosuka in the summer of his first year.

Lives with his uncle and aunt.

Has played the piano since he was a child, and loves Jazz now.

Kawabuchi Sentarou

Kaoru's only friend, and a notorious delinquent.

Has a cheerful disposition, and plays Jazz drums.

He is of mixed parentage, and has been raised by his uncle and aunt, but...

Mukae Ritsuko

Sentarou's childhood friend.

She is a simple and caring girl.

She has liked Sentarou, but fell in love with the gentle Kaoru.

Is now in a relationship with Kaoru.

Fukahori Yurika

Sentarou's first love, an upperclassman. She falls in love with Junichi, and leaves town with him.

Katsuragi Junichi

Sentarou calls him Jun-nii. He returns in defeat after getting involved in political activism in Tokyo. He returns to Tokyo as a reporter on an invitation from his senpai.

Mukae Tsutomu

Ritsuko's dad owns a record shop. His hobby is to practice Jazz in the basement studio of his shop.

Matsuoka Seiji

He asks Sentarou to play for his band, but was rejected in the end.

He was raised in a poor family. His dream is to become a star and support his family.

Maruo Shigetora

Kaoru's classmate.

A diligent student, he is also in the radio club.

He looks up to Kaoru, but it appears to be one-sided.

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＊flowersフラワーコミックスα＊

SCENE 36

"SENTAROU,"

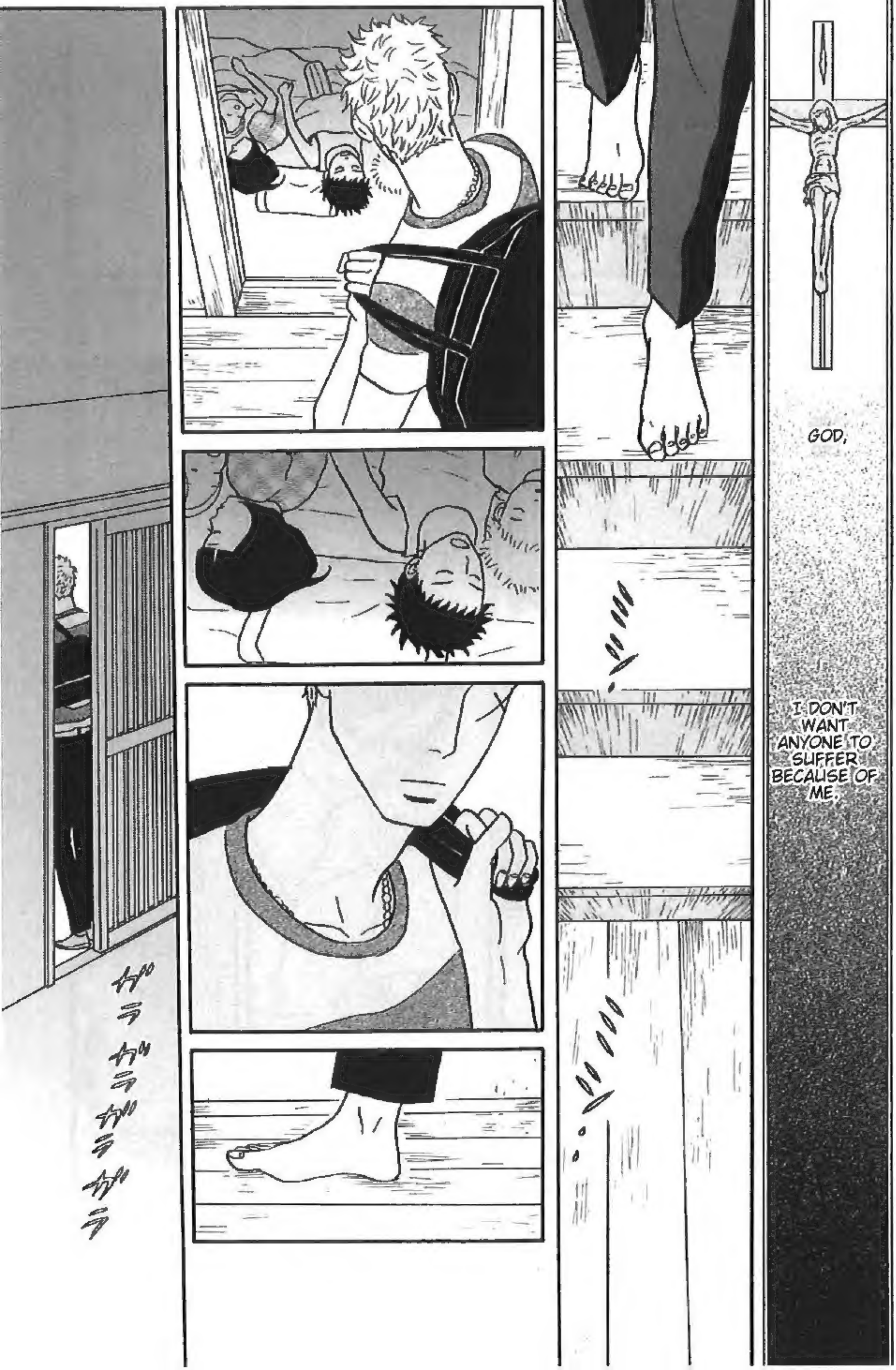
"I'M SURE YOUR DAD DOESN'T HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S DEATH."

"I THINK,"

"HE IS PROBABLY REGRETTING THAT HE PUT THE BLAME..."

"ON THE CHILD HE HAS RAISED JUST LIKE HIS OWN."

坂道のアポロン⑧



...HEY.

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING,
THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?

坂道のアポロン⑧

I THOUGHT YOU WERE ACTING STRANGE LAST NIGHT.
AND I HAD A BAD FEELING ABOUT IT.
LOOKS LIKE MY SUSPICIONS WERE CORRECT.
HEY!
WAIT!

I SAID, WAIT!

!!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR?!

ME ...!

YOU ...

LET ...

GO

OF

坂道のアポロン⑧

9

YOU...

GET OFF ME!

I'M NOT LETTING GO!!

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO RUN AWAY!!

IF I DO,

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LEAVE FOR GOOD, AREN'T YOU!?

IF YOU...

AND RICCHAN!

AND UNCLE!

AND THE BASEMENT STUDIO!

.....

IF YOU JUST DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE,

HOW DO YOU THINK YOUR SIBLINGS WOULD FEEL!

.....

ARE YOU PLANNING ON...

LEAVING THEM ALL BEHIND...?!

.....

I'M SORRY.

TO BE HERE.

BUT I HAVE NO RIGHT,

WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF?

...SINCE WHEN,

HAVE YOU BECOME SUCH A COWARD?

!

WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SAID,

THAT NOTHING GOOD,

WOULD COME OUT OF FEAR?

HEY!

YOU GUYS!

ガラッ!

ゴロン

ガラッ

YOU'RE COVERED IN BLOOD!

BON, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?

WHA ...!

...!!

STOP FIGHTING!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING ...

NIICHAN ...?

WHAT IS IT ...

KOUTA, LOOK CLOSELY, THE ONE WHO GOT BEATEN UP IS HIM.

TO BON!?

i can't believe it!

WHA... DID YOU LOSE!?

NII-CHAN, DID YOU GET INTO A FIGHT ...!?

坂道のアポロン⑧

HE'S RIGHT!

NII-CHAN ISN'T INJURED ...

.....

IS IT BECAUSE OF THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?

WHY DID YOU GUYS FIGHT ANYWAY?

CAN YOU STAND?

.....

YEAH.

KAORU-SAN!

ARE YOU OKAY!?

RECORD SHOP

I HEARD YOU GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH SENTAROU ...

IT'S NOT CONVINCING,

WHEN YOUR FACE IS COVERED IN BLOOD!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE SENTAROU!

IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.

DID HE HIT YOU!?

THAT'S GOT TO HURT ...!

OH DEAR!

NO... THIS IS JUST A SCRAPE.

坂道のアポロン⑧

AND NOT AGAINST SENTAROU ...

...YEAH.

DID YOU GUYS FIGHT BECAUSE OF THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?

.....

IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE EXCITED ABOUT IT, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T RESORT TO FIGHTING.

.....

ヨトシ

...BUT,

I KNOW...

...IN TRUTH,

I WAS AFRAID, TOO...

I WAS THINKING ...

I COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP LAST NIGHT.

ABOUT LOTS OF THINGS.

JUST FOR A MINUTE,

LET ME STAY LIKE THIS...

IS SOMETHING WRONG?

KAORU-SAN...?

KA,

AH, YES ...!

I LEFT IT NEXT TO THE TELE-PHONE!

RIT-SUKO!

HAVE YOU BROUGHT IN THE PAPERS?

REALLY ?

AH,

FOUND IT!

1年後

ピチョン

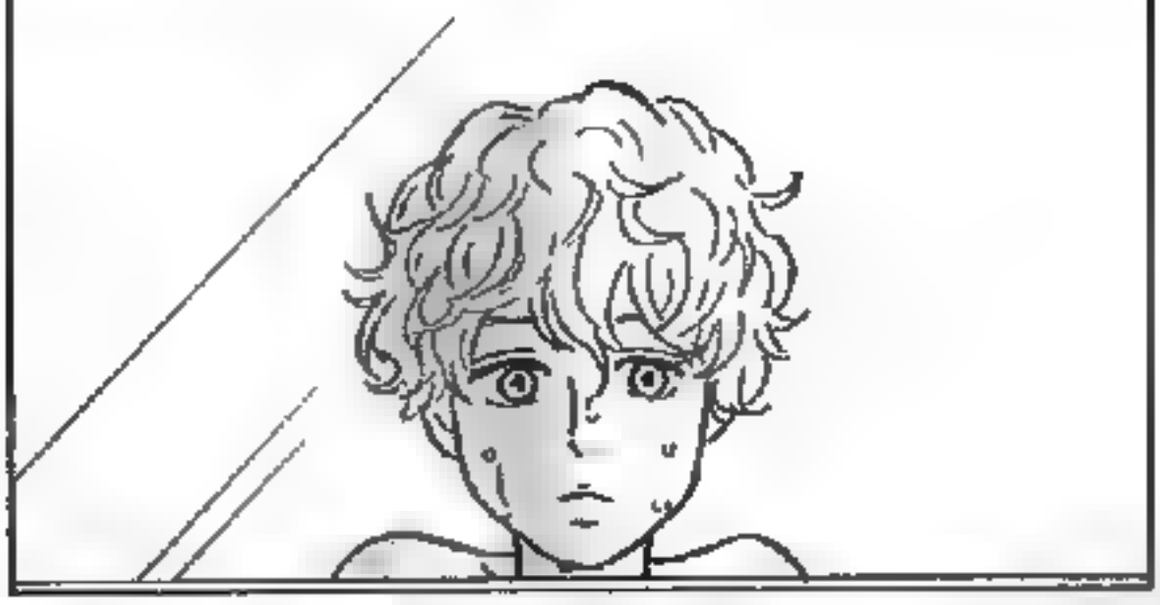
SOMETIMES,

I DON'T KNOW WHERE I CAME FROM, OR WHY I AM HERE.

BEING REFLECTED IN THE MIRROR.

NOR WHO IT IS.

I'M NOT SURE WHO I REALLY AM.

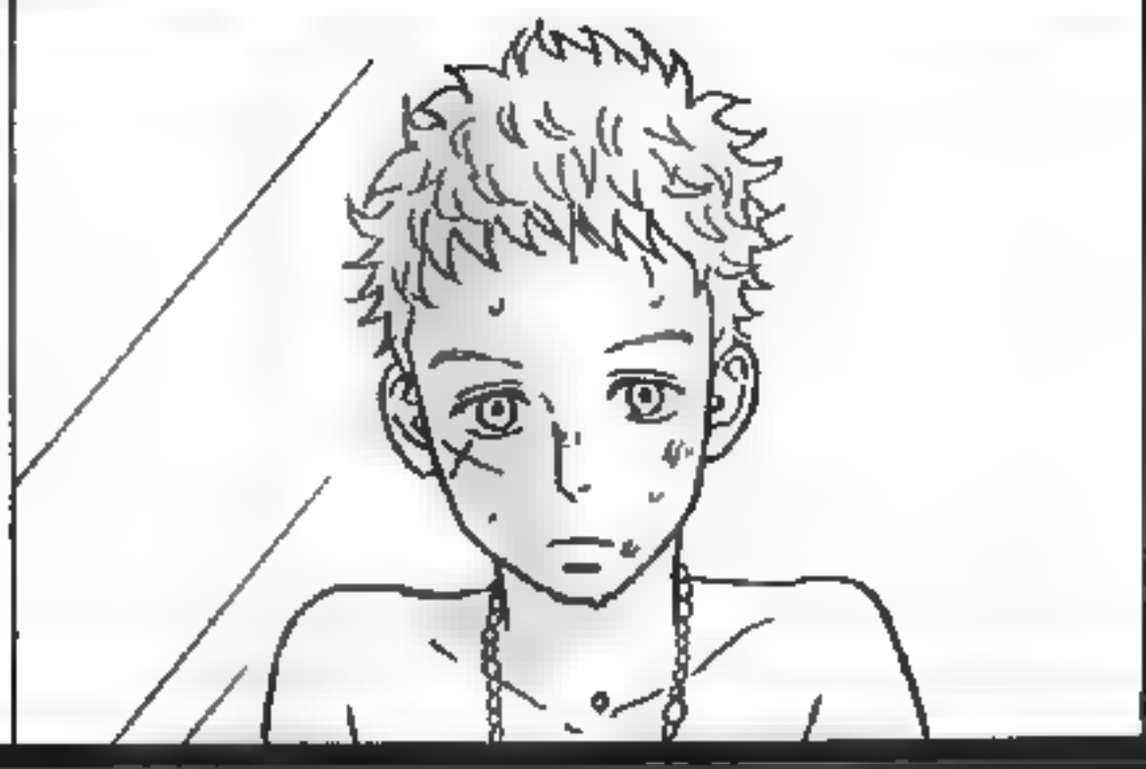


SO WHY DID HE SAY THAT?

I AM A CHILD OF THIS FAMILY.

IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME.

TODAY, A STRANGER TOLD ME TO GO BACK TO AMERICA.



HE WOULD SMILE AT ME TOO.

MAYBE, IF I RESEMBLED DAD MORE,

HE SAID THAT BABY KOUTA RESEMBLED HIM.

TODAY, DAD SMILED.

ME, AN OUTSIDER?

BUT SHOULDN'T THE ONE TO LEAVE BE...

DAD IS LEAVING THE FAMILY TO WORK.

WAS I AFRAID OF?

JUST WHAT,

NOTHING GOOD,

COMES FROM FEAR.

REALLY SAY THAT TO HIM...?

DID I ...

ドン
ドン
ドン

MAYBE DAD'S ON THIS ONE!

AH, THE TRAIN'S HERE!

WHERE?

WHERE'S DAD!?

WELCOME BACK, DAD!

I'M HOME...

IT'S DAD!

THAT'S TRUE.

...YEAH.

YOUR HAIR'S ALL WHITE.

...DAD,

...WAIT, KOLITA,

IT'S TOO HEAVY,

FOR YOU ...

I'LL CARRY YOUR BAGGAGE.

DAD,

.....

niichan!

wait!

DAD,

I'LL CARRY THAT BAG, THEN!

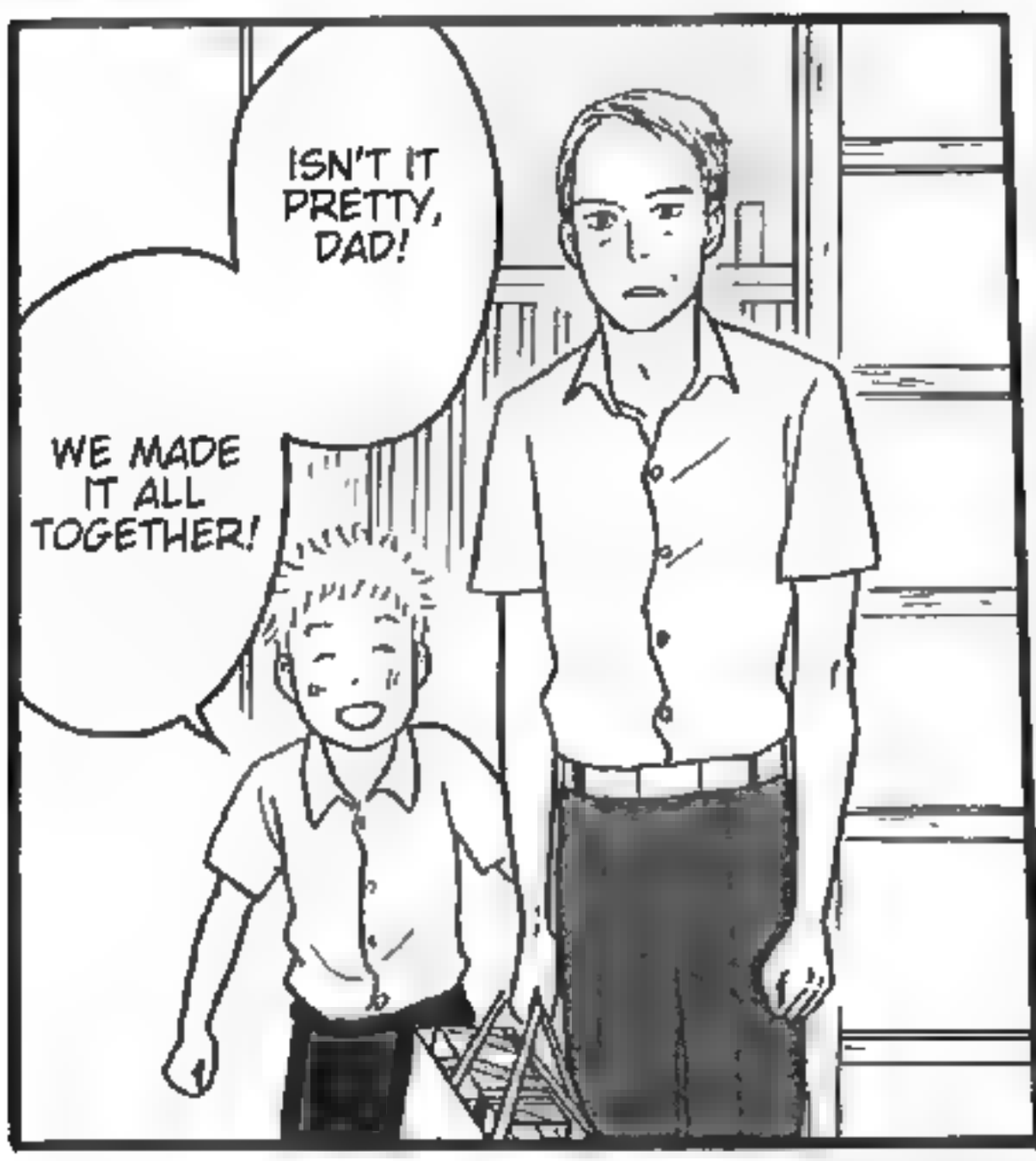
I DIDN'T

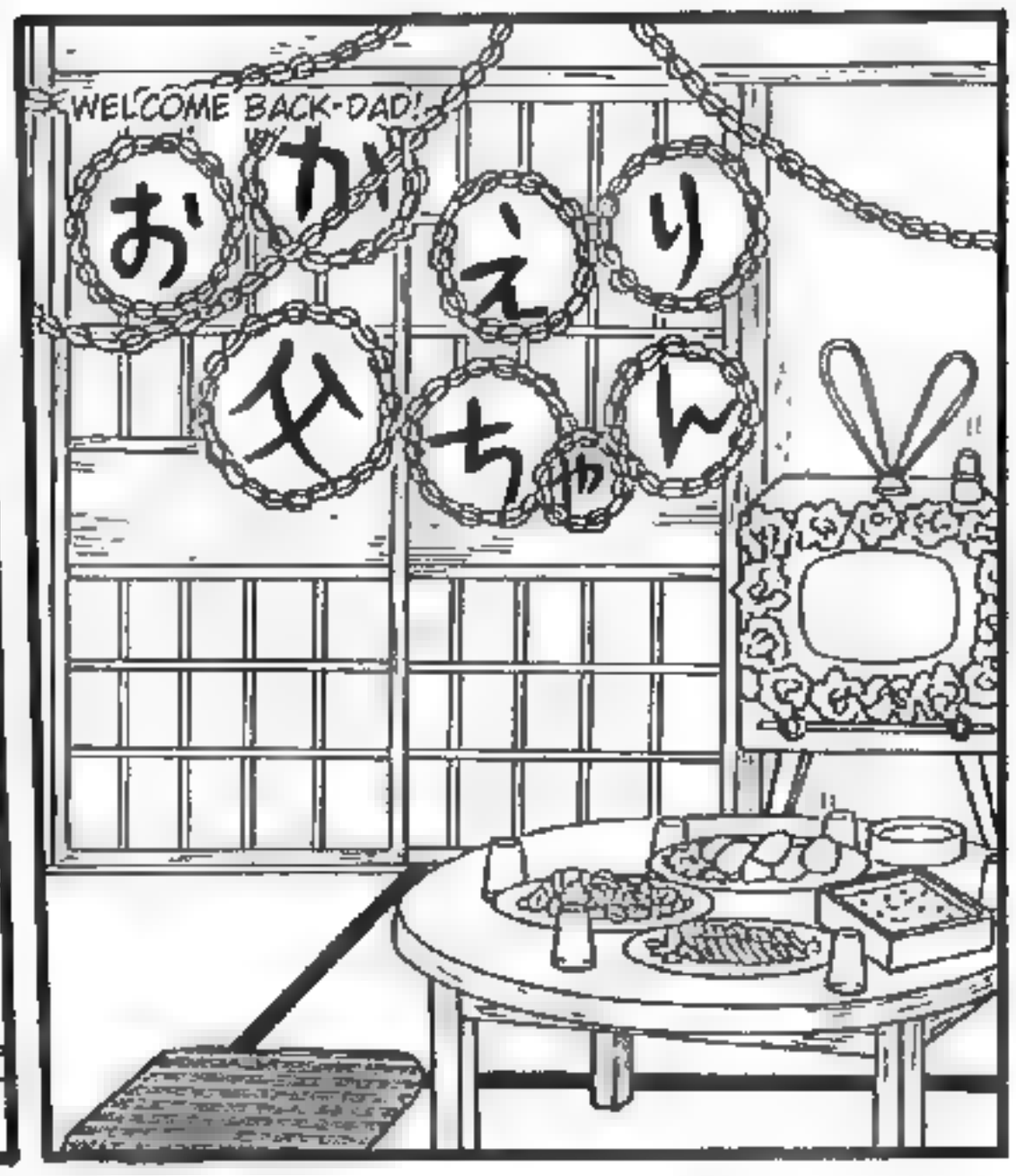
.....

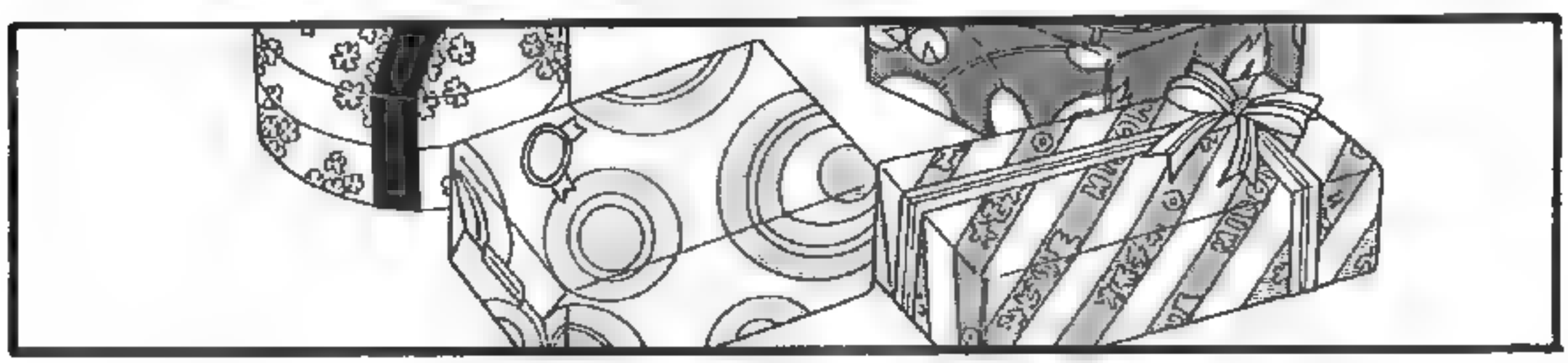
TO COME...

EXPECT HIM,

FUFU,
IT'S A FEAST!
MOM, IS THE FOOD READY!?
CAN YOU PUT DAD'S THINGS ON THE SECOND FLOOR?
WE'RE HOME!
SENTAROU WANTED TO LET YOU HAVE HIS ROOM SINCE YOU WERE COMING BACK.
USED AS HIS STUDY...?
WASN'T THE SECOND FLOOR ...
HERE,
.....
COME ON IN.
HE SAID THAT HE DIDN'T NEED A ROOM OF HIS OWN ANY MORE,
SO HE TIDIED UP THAT ROOM FOR YOU.


ISN'T IT PRETTY, DAD!
WE MADE IT ALL TOGETHER!


WELCOME BACK-DAD!
おかえりパパちゃん



I'M SORRY FOR BEING AWAY ALL THIS TIME.
...AND THIS IS FOR CHIEKO.

AND THIS IS FOR KOUTA...
THIS ONE'S FOR TAICHI.

EH...
THIS IS FOR SACHIKO.

WOW!

ehehe!

LOOK, NIICHAN!

IT'S THE ONE YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED!

ふぉぉぉ

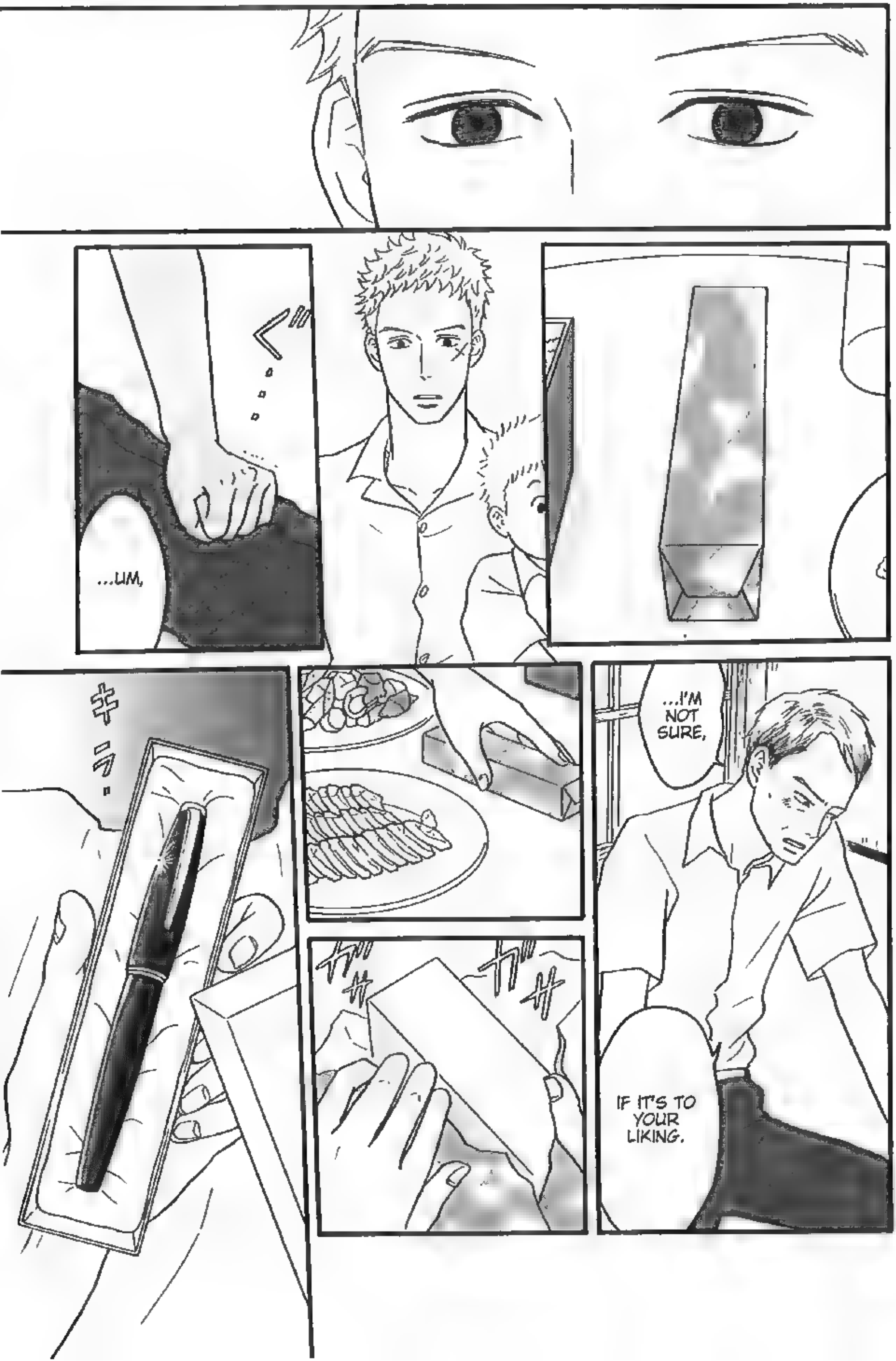
ts cute!

...AND,

ISN'T THAT GREAT, TAICHI?

THIS,

IS FOR SENTAROU.


...UM,
...I'M NOT SURE,
IF IT'S TO YOUR LIKING.

...I,

WOW!

IT'S A FOUNTAIN PEN!

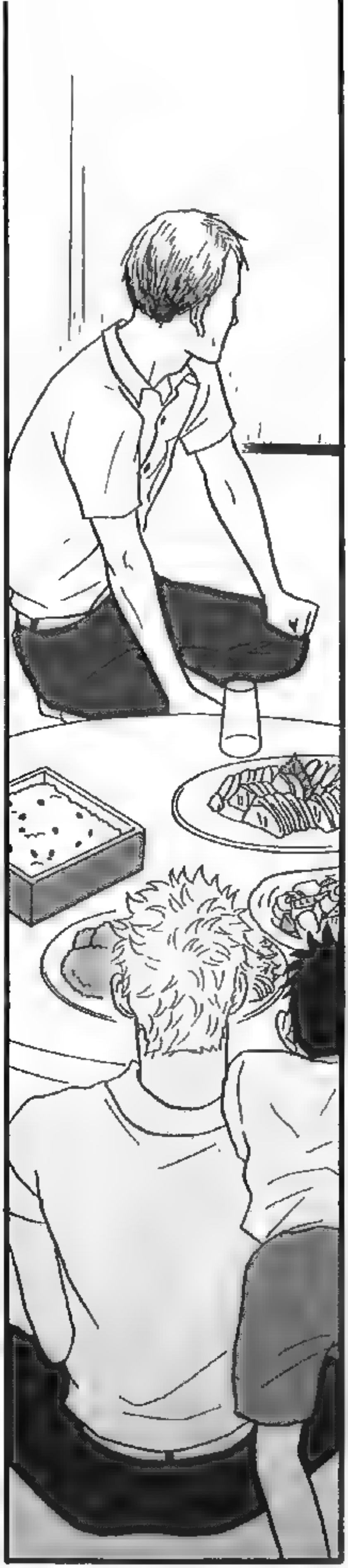
I CAN'T ACCEPT

SOMETHING THIS EXPENSIVE...

KIDS SHOULDN'T BE RESERVED AROUND THEIR PARENTS!

...PLEASE ACCEPT IT.

OH?
EVERYONE GOT A PRESENT?
OKAY.
HELP ME WITH THESE, SACHIKO.
TOILET.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SENTAROU?
ふすま



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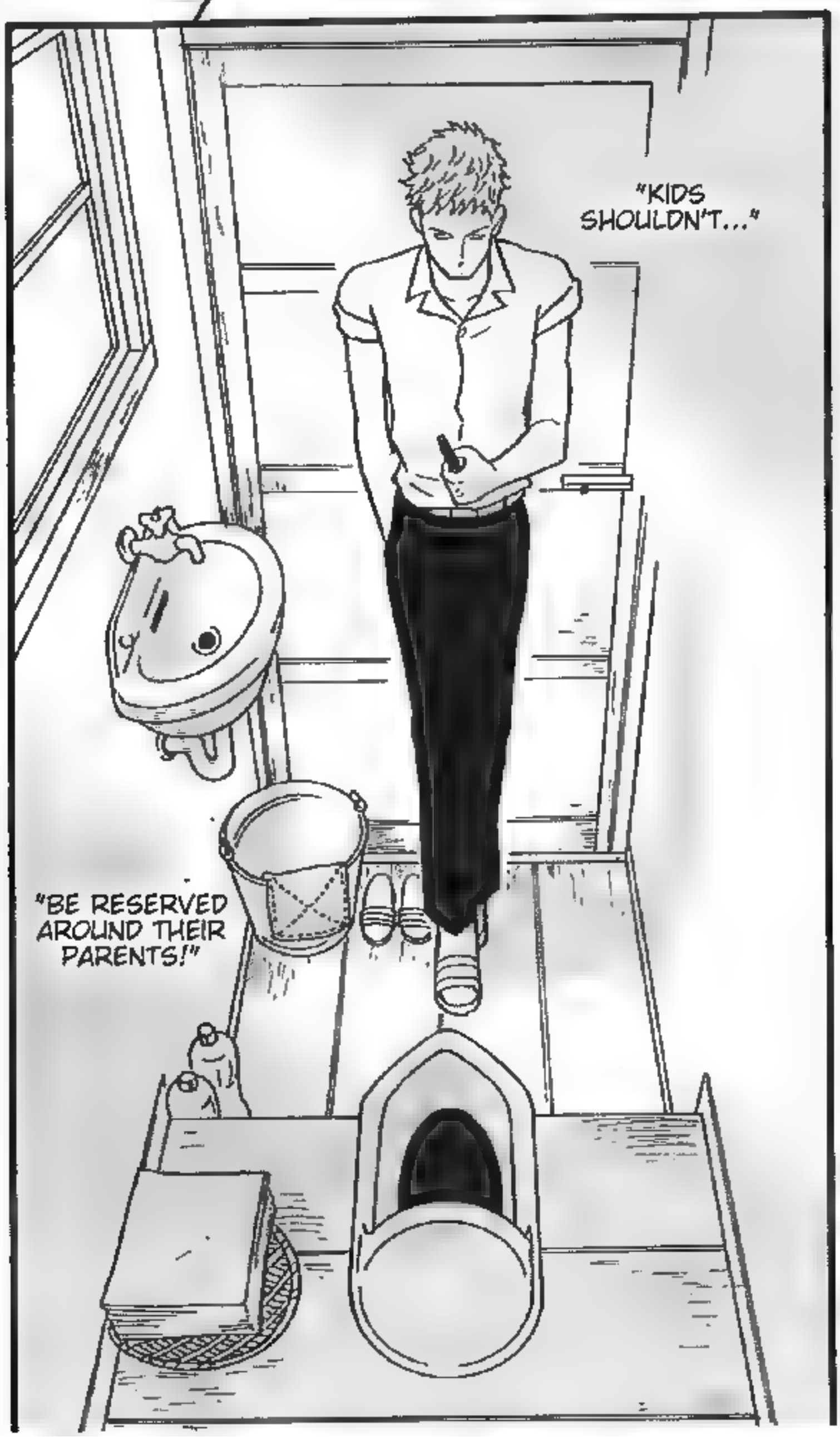

"KIDS SHOULDN'T..."
"BE RESERVED AROUND THEIR PARENTS!"

"AROUND,"

"THEIR PARENTS."

WE HAVE ONE MORE STOP AFTER THIS.

GOT IT.

IT SURE IS HOT TODAY!

I'M TEMPTED TO NICK A BEER!

.....

HAHA
...

COMING TO PRACTICE TODAY?

...ARE YOU,

WE'RE GOING TO PRACTICE FURIOUSLY FOR THE FESTIVAL!

YEAH, FROM TODAY ONWARDS,

I'M NOT LYING!

THAT BETTER BE THE TRUTH!

LIAR!

MY FACE IS ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

NOT REALLY.

WHY ARE YOU SMIRKING LIKE THAT?

LIRK!

WHAT WAS THAT?

THAT WAS A PRETTY WEIRD GREETING.

SCENE37
（シーン）

WHAT'S THIS ...?

.....

chatter

what is it?

haha!

東高新聞
East High News

オリンポスから宣戦布告
A Challenge from the Olympus

"We are going to start the Rock revolution this year right from East High," says Mr. Matsuoka.

The Olympus has faced technical difficulties in their previous appearance at the culture festival, but Mr. Matsuoka hopes to come back with new members this year.

"We're going to give it our all this year, so girls don't faint when you see us."

A spirited Mr. Matsuoka shares his views on the culture festival.

IN OTHER WORDS

The greatest event for this year's culture festival is

A ROCK VS JAZZ SHOWDOWN!!!

A SHOWDOWN ...?

HOW FOOLISH.

WHAT'S GOING ON, BON?

YOU'VE COME AT THE RIGHT TIME.

LOOK AT THIS.

WE'LL SHOW HIM!

AND "JAZZ IS NOTHING"?

DOES HE MEAN BY "A CHALLENGE"...

HAHA!

THEY'RE EXAGGERATING THINGS, AREN'T THEY, BON?

JUST WHAT,...

BON...?

.....

I'M SORRY FOR NOT TELLING YOU IN ADVANCE.

WHAT...!?

BUT... CAN YOU PERFORM WITH US FOR THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?

I'VE GOTTEN APPROVAL FROM THE SCHOOL.

I WAS HOPING THAT UNCLE COULD PLAY THE BASS FOR US.

ABOUT THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?

YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME?

ACTUALLY,

I NEED TIME TO PREPARE.

ADULTS HAVE PLENTY ON THEIR HANDS.

AND ...

IT'S A LITTLE SUDDEN...

I'M NOT SURE...

YOU'RE ALREADY PREPARED!

DAHAHA!

REALLY, YOU BOTH,

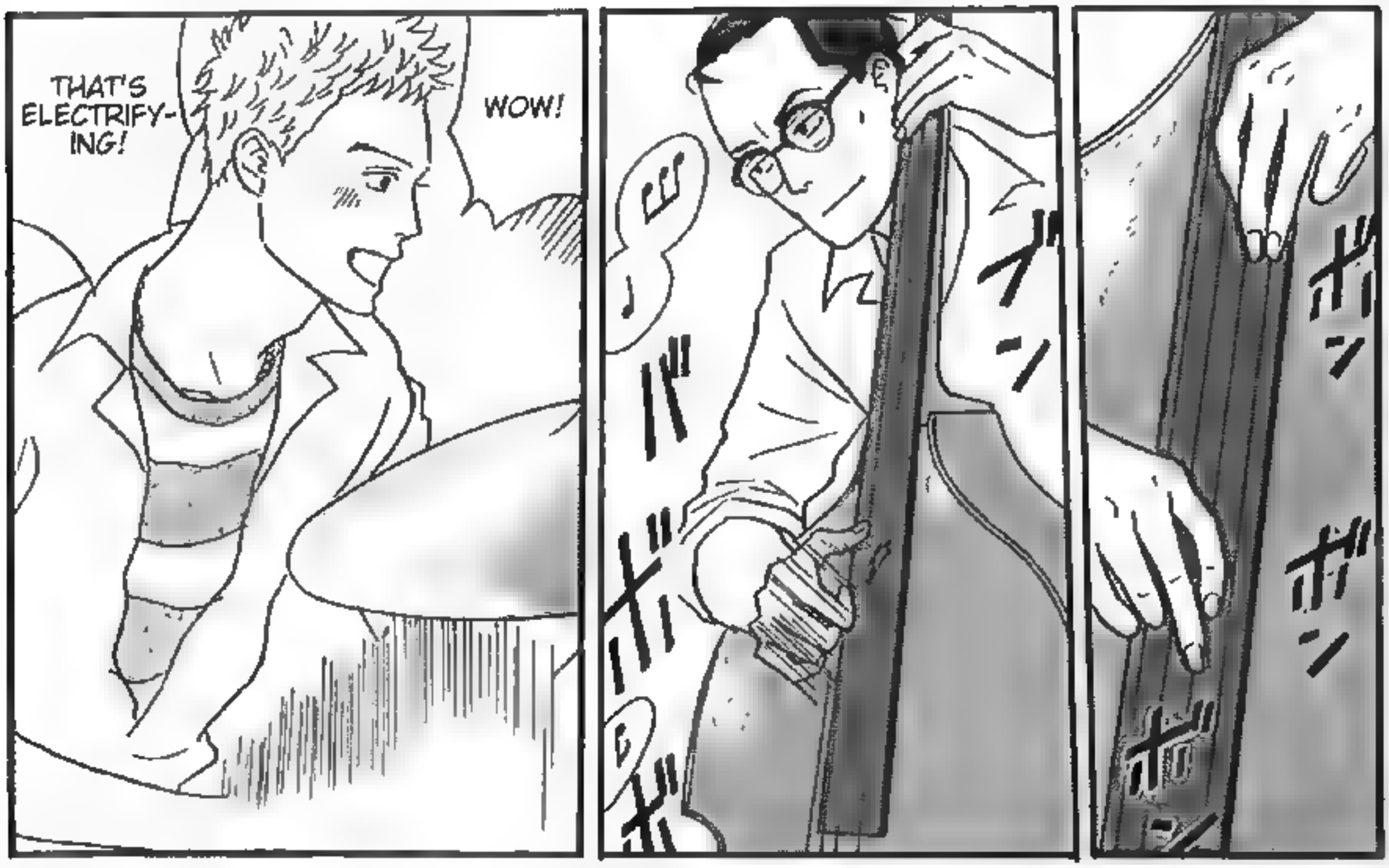
COME ON, STOP LAZING ABOUT!

OKAY, OKAY.

WE NEED TO PRACTICE!

YOU NEED TO BE MORE CONSIDERATE WHEN MAKING DECISIONS...

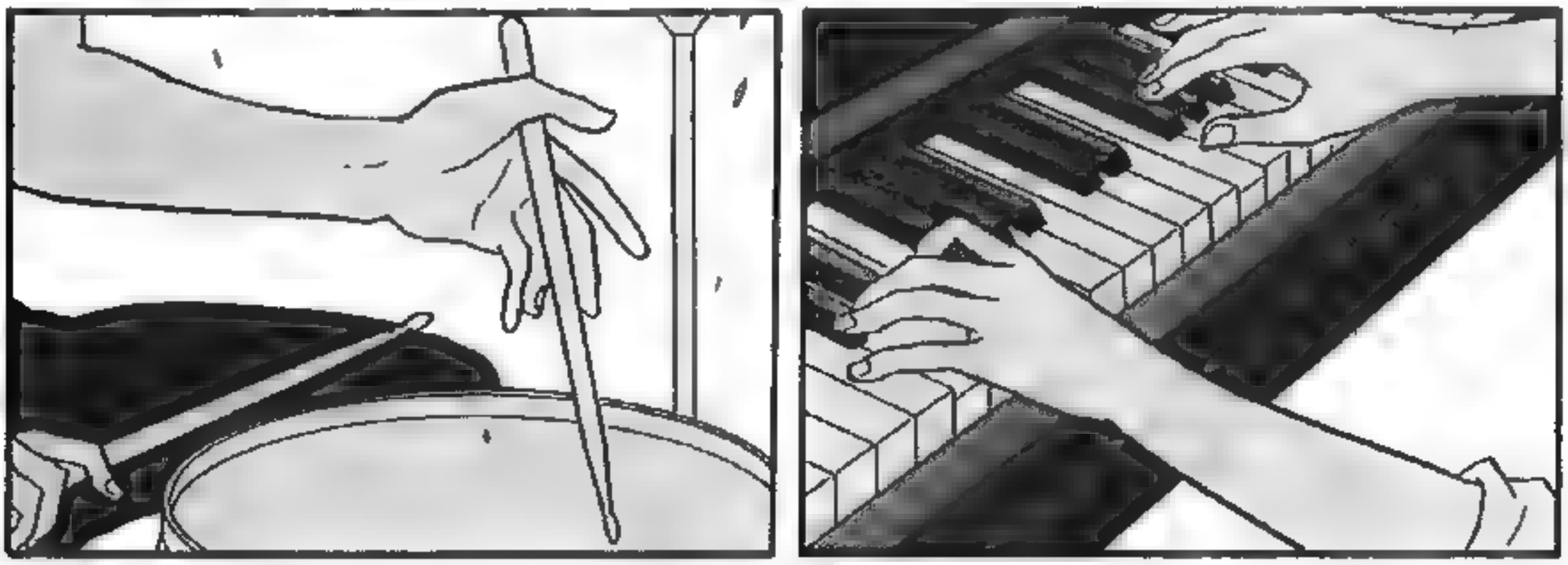
坂道のアポロン⑧


THAT'S ELECTRIFY-ING!
WOW!

RIGHT, BON?
WE CAN'T POSSIBLY LOSE NOW,

YEAH.

RECORD SHOP



WHAT'S WRONG?

BON?

LET'S DO OUR BEST, EVERYONE!

I SAW THEM HAVING A MEETING FOR THE CULTURE FESTIVAL.

THERE WERE ALMOST 40 GIRLS CROWDED INTO THE MUSIC ROOM...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TODAY, IN SCHOOL ...

AT THIS RATE, WE MIGHT LOSE TO THE OLYMPUS ...

SEN... IT'S NO GOOD ...

...

THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

THAT BASTARD, HE'S TRYING TO WIN WITH NUMBERS.

HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO GET THEM TO DANCE FOR HIS PERFORMANCE.

I KNOW! I UNDER-STAND, BUT...

I WANT TO DO SOME-THING...

IT'S ENOUGH IF WE FACE THEM WITH OUR MUSIC.

NO MATTER WHAT THEY COME UP WITH,

BECAUSE,

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANY REGRETS ...

THIS IS GOING TO BE OUR LAST CULTURE FESTIVAL.

hmm...

FINDING A WAY TO INTEREST PEOPLE WHO DON'T USUALLY LISTEN TO JAZZ...

THAT'S DIFFICULT ...

IT'LL SOUND BEAUTIFUL IF WE COULD GET SOMEONE TO PLAY THE HORN, THOUGH...

...WELL, EVEN IF YOU SAY SO,

THERE'S ONLY TEN DAYS LEFT.

SEN, HAVE YOU HEARD FROM JUNICHI RECENTLY?

NOPE.

...I GUESSED SO.

♪

♫

UNCLE...

WE COULD GET HIM TO JOIN IN...

♫

♫

OH, HOW ABOUT,

ASKING THAT FRIEND OF YOURS WHO CAN PLAY THE GUITAR?

WHA...!? I SEE...

♪

♪

HE'S ALREADY PART OF THE OLYMPUS.

WE CAN'T ...

DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?

EH?

WAIT,

RICCHAN!

that's a pity- I wanted to hear someone play jazz guitar-

♪

坂道のアポロン⑧

EH ...?

I HAVE THE SOUNDTRACK,

SO I CAN REMEMBER BITS OF IT, BUT NOT EVERY-THING...

IT'S FINE.

DO YOU KNOW THE LYRICS?

THE SONG YOU WERE HUMMING JUST NOW,

THAT WAS "MY FAVOURITE THINGS", WASN'T IT?

TRY SINGING IT.

IN THE RHYTHM OF THE ORIGINAL SONG.

...SEN,

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

These are a few of my favorite things...

Raindrops on roses and ...whiskers on kittens

OH!

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.

SHALL WE,

HAVE RICCHAN SING FOR US AT THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?

EH!?

W, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?

I, I CAN'T POSSIBLY SING!!

A, AND T...THAT WASN'T REALLY JAZZ!

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ADAPT IT TO JAZZ.

10 DAYS SHOULD BE ENOUGH.

RICCHAN, CAN YOU SING FOR US?

坂道のアポロン⑧

WHAT HAP-PENED?
...OH,
WERE YOU STILL BOTHERED BY THAT?
RIT-SUKO!
MY TEACHER IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SAID SO!
I CAN'T DO IT ...
I HAVE NO TALENT FOR MUSIC!

SHE HAD NO TALENT FOR MUSIC.
AND THEN HER TEACHER TOLD HER THAT SINCE SHE COULD ONLY PLAY THE SAME NOTE WITH BOTH HANDS,
WHEN RITSUKO WAS A CHILD, SHE PLAYED THE PIANO IN SCHOOL,

MAYBE RICCHAN...
.....
AH... I WAS JUST SURPRISED THAT YOU TOOK THAT TEACHER'S WORDS TO HEART...
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TELL THEM...
STOP IT, DAD ...
AFTER THAT, SHE STOPPED PLAYING THE PIANO ALTOGETHER...

TO PLAY MUSIC WITH US?

HAS ALWAYS WANTED,

RIKKO,

.....

...WELL,

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SING, TELL US NOW.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO REFUSE, DO IT NOW.

ONCE YOU DECIDE TO DO IT, I'M NOT GOING EASY ON YOU!

"MY FAVOURITE THINGS"

IS A SONG THAT SOUNDS GOOD EVEN IF YOU'RE A LITTLE OFF.

ISN'T THAT PERFECT FOR RIKKO?

ししし

YOUR SINGING,

WAS PRETTY GOOD...

I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO REFUSE.

RICCHAN,

hehehe

HEY!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN!

IF...

YOU DON'T MIND,

IT'S EXACTLY AS SEN SAYS.

PLEASE HELP US OUT,

きょろ

きょろっ

……

I'LL GIVE IT A TRY …

…I UNDER-STAND.

AS A FRIEND.

ONE MORE TIME!

NO!

These are ...

THERE!

REMEMBER THE SYNCOPATION!!

HOLD IT LONGER!

tied up with strings

Brown paper packages...

few of my フェーバリー...

one, two, three four!

THERE'S A HALF REST IN BETWEEN!

Bright copper kettles

WRONG! ONCE MORE!

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH SWING!

Y, yes!!

it's dan-dan da-dan there!

once more!!

...HEY,
DON'T GET IN THE WAY, SEN.
I'M TEACHING HER THE BASICS OF JAZZ ...
チ!
チ!
チキ
チキ
チキ
チッ
チキ
チキ
チキ
チキ
チキ
チ
チキ
チ
IS NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT, BUT FEEL!
THE RULE OF JAZZ,
チ
チキ
THAT'S WHAT I KNOW.
AM I WRONG ?

JOIN IN, RIKKO!

ALRIGHT!

JOIN IN...?

...UM,

...EH!?

DAHAHA!

Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens

SING ALONG, RICCHAN!

LA-LA-LA LA-LA-LA

LA-LALA LA-LA-LA

tied up with strings

Brown paper packages

These are a few of my favorite thin

ahahaha!

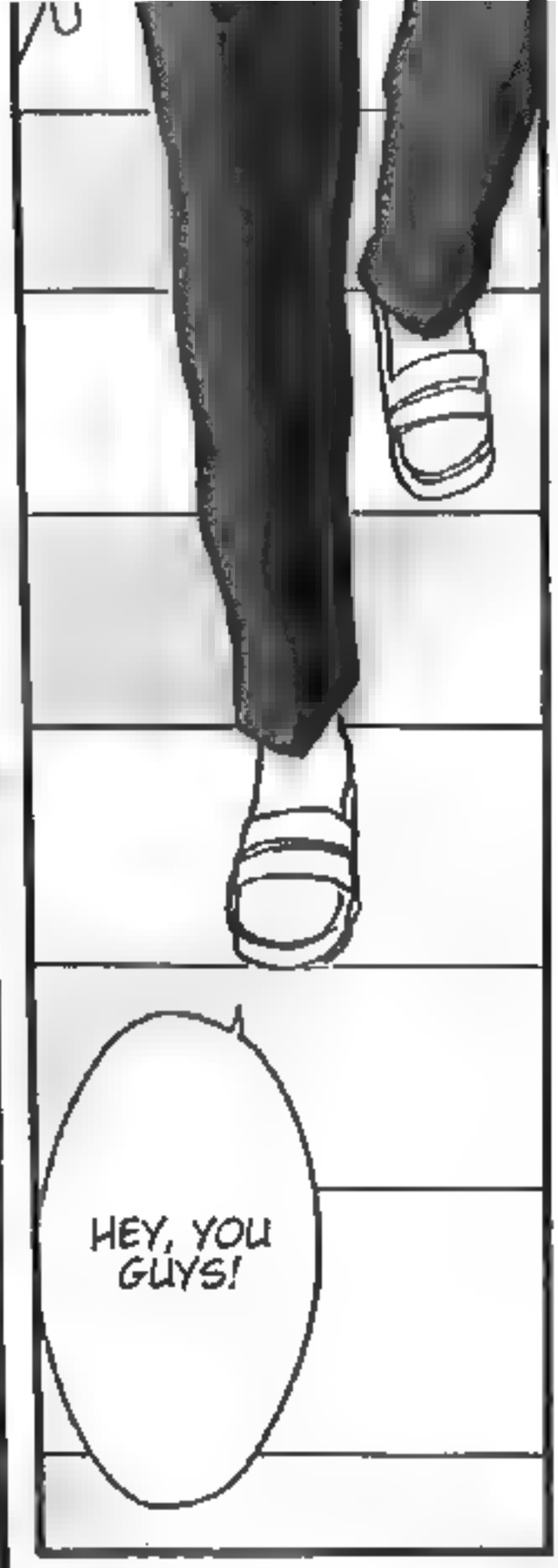
あはは

en? eh?

rikko. this is where you scat sing!

坂道のアポロン⑧

IT'S GETTING LATE!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR SPIRIT, BUT DON'T OVERDO IT, OKAY?
GOT IT!


HEY, YOU GUYS!

I SEE.
FEEL FREE TO USE OUR PHONE IF YOU NEED TO.

I TOLD THEM I'D BE BACK LATE.
AND RECENTLY THEY'VE GIVEN ME THE FREEDOM TO WHAT I WANT.

ARE YOU OKAY STAYING THIS LATE WITHOUT CONTACTING YOUR FAMILY, BON?

OH, AND ARE YOU GUYS HUNGRY?
I'VE MADE SOME RICE BALLS.
YAY!

AH-!

3

THAT REALLY HIT THE SPOT!

DRUMMING TOOK A LOT OF ENERGY!

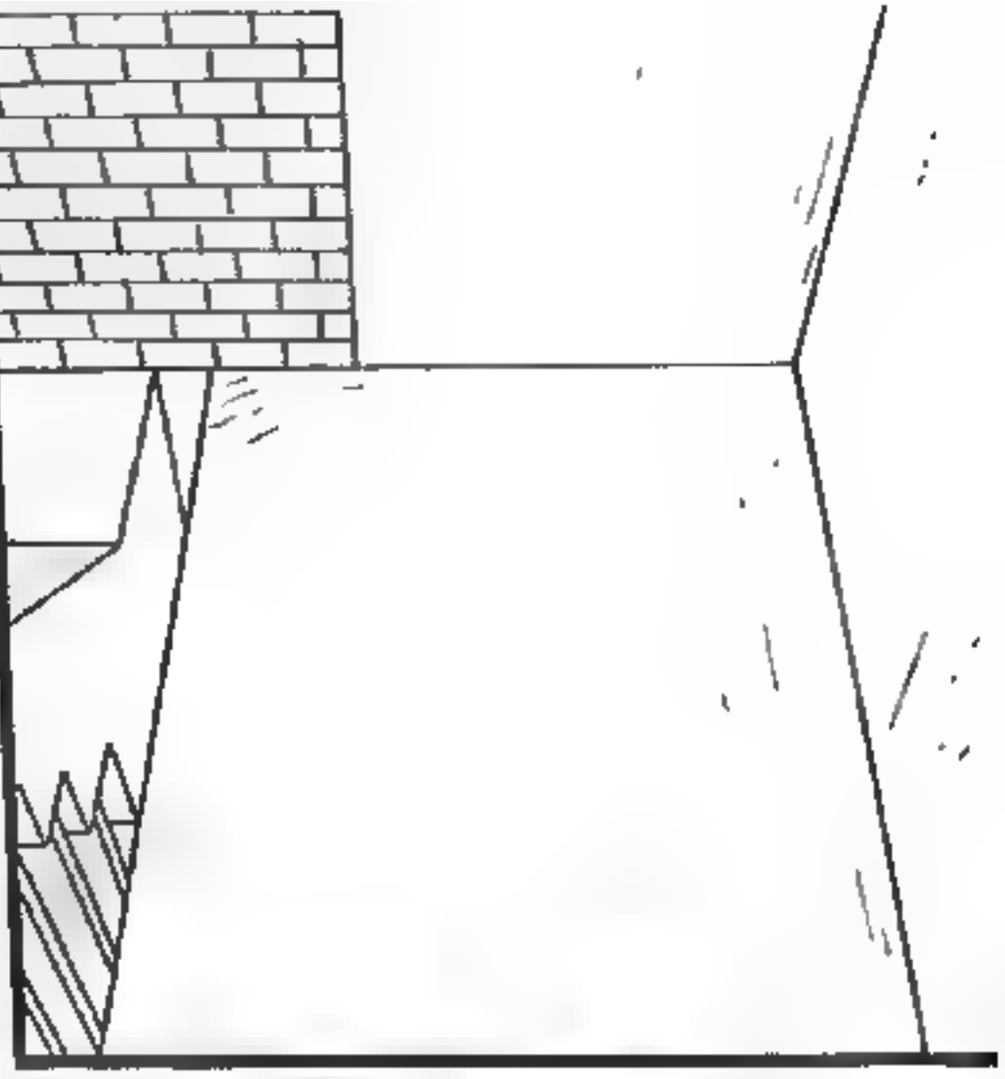
OH,

YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S NICE AND COLD.

BON, TRY LYING DOWN HERE.

THE FLOOR FEELS GOOD!

DUP



YOU'RE RIGHT! IT FEELS GOOD.
FUFU

.....

RICHAN, WHY DON'T YOU LIE DOWN TOO?

THE THINGS I LIKE ARE...

SPEAKING OF "MY FAVOURITE THINGS"...

THE FOOTSTEPS OF SOMEONE COMING TO VISIT,

THE SOUNDS OF THE PIANO AND DRUMS MESHED TOGETHER IN THE BASEMENT,

AND THE LAUGHTER OF TWO BOYS...

DRUMMING AND WATERMELON AND RICE BALLS...

THOSE ARE SOME OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS~

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HEHE,

JUST KIDDING ...

HUH!?

I DON'T WANT TO!

YOU'VE GOT TO TELL US YOUR FAVOURITE THINGS TOO!

EH!?

IT'S YOUR TURN, BON!

WHA...

STOP THAT, SENTAROU...

there's nothing!

IN TRUTH,

I'VE ALREADY KNOWN WHAT IT IS.

EVEN BEFORE RICCHAN BROUGHT THIS UP.

ARE MOMENTS LIKE THESE.

THAT "MY FAVOURITE THINGS",

HEY, HEY!

HOW ARE YOU DOING SO FAR?

DON'T TELL ME,

THAT YOU HAVEN'T PREPARED ONE AT ALL?

HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS? HAVE YOU MADE A COSTUME YET?

WE'RE TRYING ON OUR COSTUMES RIGHT NOW!

I WANT TO CHANGE OUR LOOK FROM LAST YEAR, SEE?

WE DON'T NEED ANYTHING,

BUT OUR MUSIC.

THAT,

SUITS YOU REALLY WELL.

...MAN,

HOW DOES HE DO IT...?

THAT WAS COOL ...

ALRIGHT,...

THE SCORE IS COMPLETE.

THAT IT'S TOMORROW.

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE...

YOU'VE GOT TO GET SOME REST TOO.

TOMORROW'S THE DAY.

AND OUR REHEARSAL YESTERDAY WENT WELL.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR US TO DO OUR BEST FOR THE FESTIVAL.

WE'VE BEEN PRACTICING TILL LATE AT NIGHT RECENTLY.

SO I'LL GO BACK EARLY TODAY AND GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST.

うぎ…

……

YEAH …

CAN WE PLAY IT JUST ONE MORE TIME?

BON,

"MOANIN'".

IF I START PLAYING A SESSION NOW, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO STOP!

HM…

HAHA, I SEE!

THAT'S TRUE.

I'LL PASS ON THAT, I TOLD AUNT THAT I'LL BE BACK EARLY TODAY.

SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!
DON'T BE LATE.
YEAH.
AH...

I SHOULD HAVE...

PLAYED "MOANIN'" ONCE MORE WITH HIM...

ARE ITCHING TO PLAY.

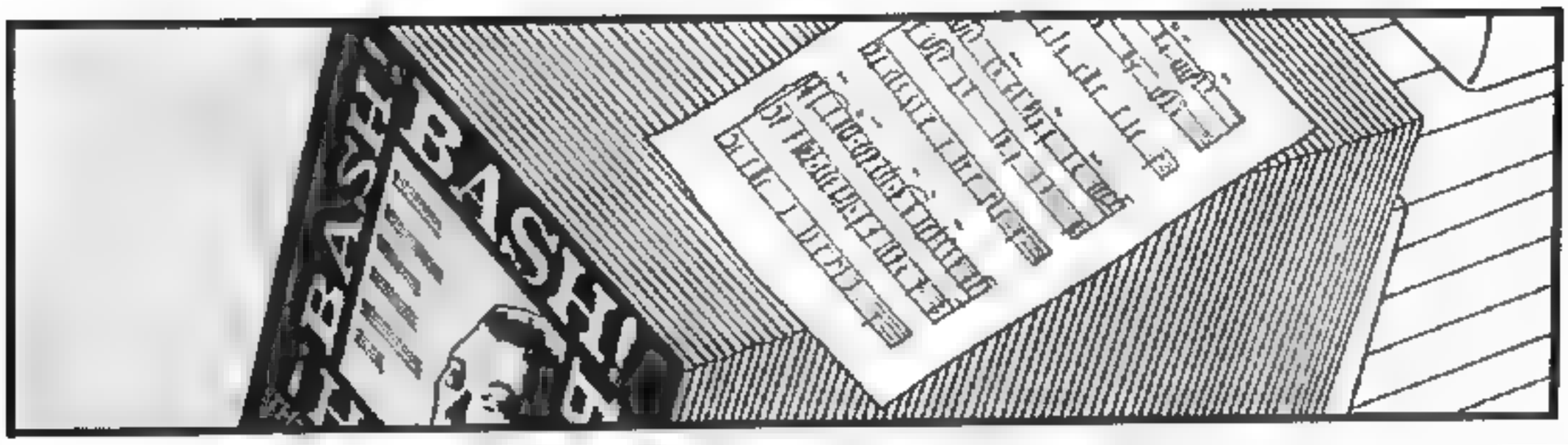
MY FINGERS ...

I'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY AS MUCH AS I WANT TOMORROW.

WELL,

"MOANIN'".

MY VERY BEST RENDITION OF,


BASH!

AH.

"BECAUSE THIS WILL BE OUR"
"LAST CULTURE FESTIVAL..."

WELL,
.....

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE IS NO NEED FOR A SCORE IN JAZZ.
I'LL JUST GIVE IT TO HIM TOMORROW.

BASH!
IT'S THE SCORE ...
HE LEFT ONE SHEET BEHIND...

"I DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANY REGRETS."

I'M GOING TO DELIVER SOMETHING HE FORGOT.

GOTTA RUN!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? ...BACK TO SCHOOL?

NOPE.

...EH?

SEN-TAROU!
KAORU-SAN LEFT A WHILE AGO,
YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO CATCH UP EVEN IF YOU RUN!
I KNOW.
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU HERE WHEN YOU AREN'T WORKING.
OH?
HI.
HERE ON AN ERRAND?

I'LL RETURN IT AS SOON AS POS-SIBLE!

NO, I'M FINE.

NOPE.

I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD BORROW THAT FOR A MOMENT.

DO YOU NEED IT?

YOU SHOULDN'T BE RIDING ON THAT IN YOUR UNIFORM, THOUGH...

SCENE38

43年度 文化祭 歓迎

SHOWA 43 (1968): WELCOME TO THE CULTURE FESTIVAL

WE'LL BE THERE WITH YOU,

AND WE'LL DEFINITELY MAKE IT FUN, SO DON'T WORRY.

OH DEAR... I'M GETTING NERVOUS.

I REALLY DON'T THINK I CAN DO THIS.

YOU'LL BE FINE.

...AND AFTER THIS SONG,

ON MY CUE, YOU WILL HAVE TO COME ON STAGE.

I, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING THE BOTH OF YOU!

IT MIGHT BE FROM DAD ... I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

OKAY.

SO PLEASE GO TO THE OFFICE NOW.

THERE WAS A CALL FROM YOUR FAMILY.

EH?

...AH! MUKAE-SAN!

SEN IS LATE...

AND I REMINDED HIM TO COME EARLY...

YOU LOOK CONFIDENT.

ARE YOU REALLY GOING OUT WITH THE GIRL FROM JUST NOW!?

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TODAY! WE'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON!

NISHIMI SENPAI!

EH?

THANKS ...

EH??

NOPE,

BUT JAZZ IS A BATTLE OF IMPROVISATION ...

NO...

?

SO THERE'S NO NEED TO PREPARE.

YOU HAVE THE TIME FOR FANSERVICE?

SO YOU'RE DONE PREPARING WITH YOUR PARTNER?

WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING!

I WANTED TO, THOUGH ...!

I SEE!

THAT'S AMAZ-ING!

DAMN,

I'M GETTING WORRIED...

THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT NOW!

AND WE'VE GOT THE SPARE FUSES READY TOO.

GREAT!

I'VE GOT THE EXTEN-SION CORD!

SEIJI!

坂道のアポロン⑧

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO COMES FIRST...
I HOPE EITHER SEN OR UNCLE SHOWS UP SOON...
RIC-CHAN?
...
WHAT DID UNCLE SAY?
RIC-CHAN!
AH!

...KAORU-SAN,
SENTAROU, HE...

GOT INTO...

A BIKE ACCIDENT YESTERDAY.

AND HE'S BEEN HOSPITALIZED ...

坂道のアポロン⑧

WH...
WHAT...? IS HE...
BUT...
I DON'T KNOW.
DAD ONLY SAID THAT HE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL.
... WHAT SHOULD I DO...! KAORU-SAN?
SENTAROU'S FAMILY WENT TO VISIT HIM LAST NIGHT,
AND THEY AREN'T BACK YET...
SENTAROU IS...
SENTAROU IS...
IT'S PROBABLY... SERIOUS... OR EVEN WORSE...

I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL NOW.

STAY HERE, RICCHAN.

RICCHAN, IT'LL BE FINE, SO CALM DOWN.

AN ACCIDENT?

IT'S GOT TO BE SOME KIND OF MISTAKE.

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RIGHT?

TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE.

...DAMN IT.

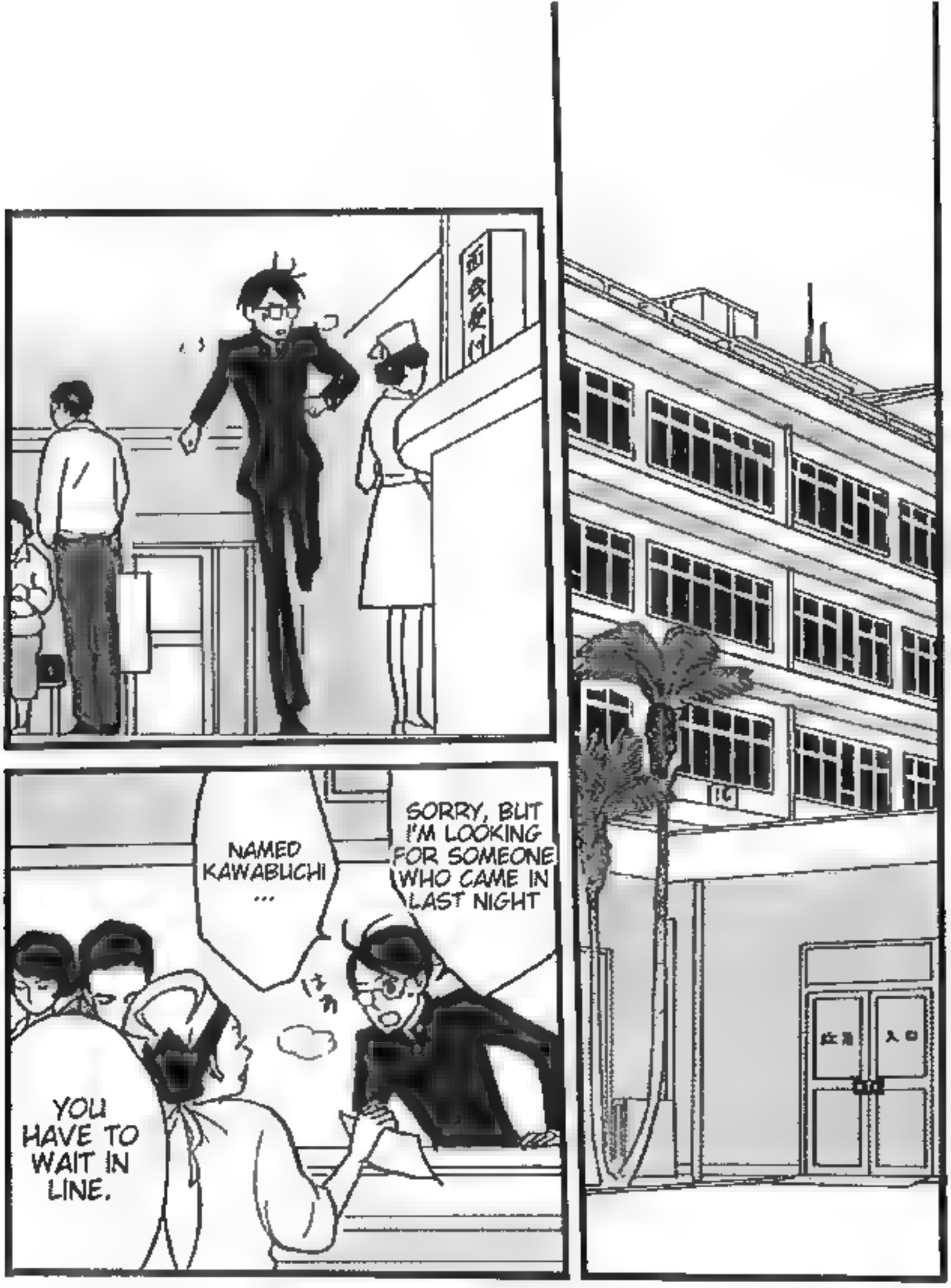
AND I CAN'T RUN ANY FASTER.

MY FEET FEEL HEAVY.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

I'VE RUN DOWN THIS SLOPE COUNTLESS TIMES,

AND YET IT FEELS SO LONG.


NAMED KAWABUCHI ...
SORRY, BUT I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO CAME IN LAST NIGHT
YOU HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE.

SEN...
SEN,
SEN, WHERE ARE YOU?
!
はぁ
はぁ
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND...
AH!
wait!

UM...

THE OPERATION WAS DONE YESTERDAY...

THERE WERE INJURIES ALL OVER, BUT COMPARED TO THE HEAD...

APPARENTLY IT WAS A MAJOR INJURY...

OH ...!

I HEARD ABOUT THE ACCIDENT...

HOW IS HE DOING NOW ...?

AND HE'S...

STILL UNCONSCIOUS...

AT THIS RATE...

HE MIGHT NEVER WAKE UP FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE...

面会謝絶

THAT'S WHAT ...

THE DOCTOR TOLD US EARLIER ...!

!!

SEN'S ...

DAD ...?

BUT ...

STOP SAYING ...

SUCH THINGS!

THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN...!

HE'S...

ALWAYS GETTING INJURED IN FIGHTS,

AND EVEN SO, HE ALWAYS LAUGHED IT OFF!

HE'S RIGHT...

THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIM.

THERE'S NO WAY THAT A MAN LIKE HIM WON'T BE ABLE TO WAKE UP FROM THIS...!

EH...?

面会謝絶

UM...

THE ONE INSIDE,

IS SACHIKO.

I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT...

NEE-CHAN WAS

RIDING ON THE BACK OF SEN'S BIKE YESTERDAY.

EH...?

...

NEE-CHAN FELL OUT... AND HIT HER HEAD...
THEY CRASHED INTO A CAR...
THEN ...
WHAT ABOUT... HIM...?
.....
THEN,
ON THAT BENCH ...
OVER THERE.
HE WAS SITTING THERE JUST NOW...
HE'S NOT THERE ...
...EH?

PLEASE STAY BY YOUR MOM'S SIDE.

I'LL TRY LOOKING FOR HIM.

I SEE, THANKS.

WHERE ARE YOU?

SEN,

AND WHAT ARE YOU FEELING RIGHT NOW?

WHERE HAVE YOU GONE,

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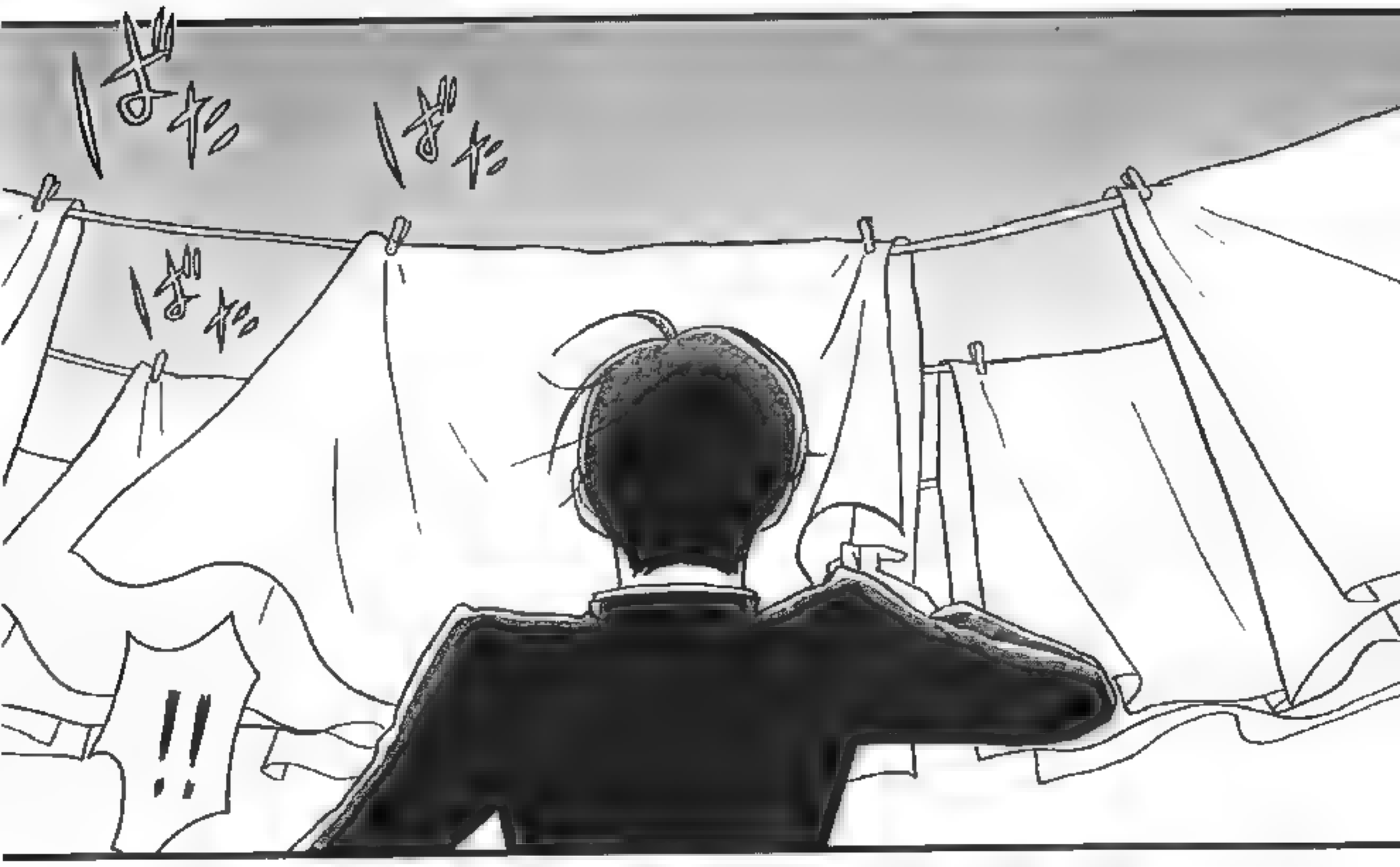
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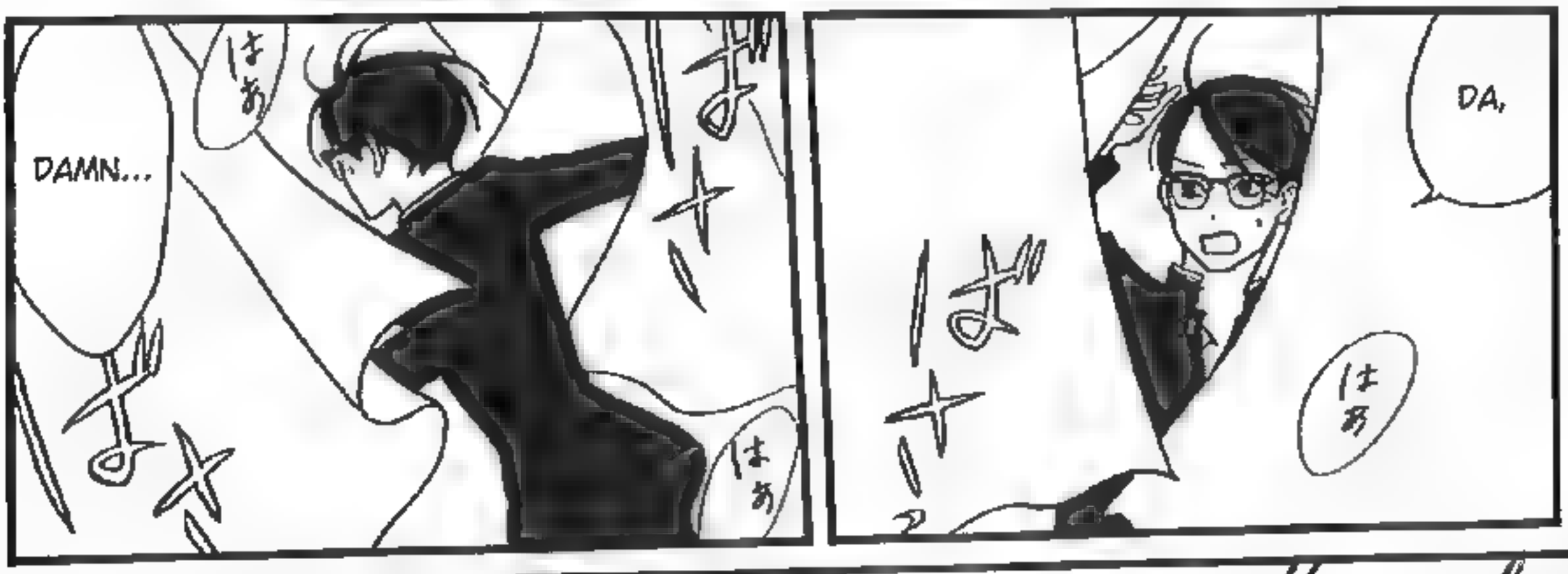
DAMN...
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はあ
DA,
はあ

坂道のアポロン⑧

.....

HEH!

FUHAHA!

THE ANGEL APPEARS AGAIN.

坂道のアポロン⑧

IF YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE SOMEONE TO HEAVEN,
WHAT ...?
...?
COULD YOU SPARE SACHIKO,
AND TAKE ME INSTEAD,
ANGEL?

.....
I PICKED UP SACHIKO ON THE WAY BACK,
YESTER-DAY,
UM ...
THAT'S RIDICULOUS.
I'M NOT TAKING ANYONE TO HEAVEN.
.....

GOING TO SEND HER BACK HOME.
AND I WAS JUST...

I WAS THE ONE,

WHO TOLD HER TO GET ON.

WHY,

THE PEOPLE I WANT TO PROTECT?
DO I ALWAYS,
END UP HURTING,
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK...
...HEY,
COULD YOU TELL ME SOMETHING?
FOR WHAT PURPOSE,
WAS I BORN?

BON?

WHAT'S WRONG?

……

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!
HEY?
WHY ARE YOU THE ONE CRYING?

WE WON'T HAVE TO SEE EACH OTHER CRY.

THIS WAY.

BON!?

WAIT,

I CAN'T BREATHE ...

URG!

WHO'S CRYING...

EACH OTHER?

...HAHA,

IT'S OKAY TO CRY, SEN.

YOU'VE DONE WELL, COMING THIS FAR BY YOURSELF.
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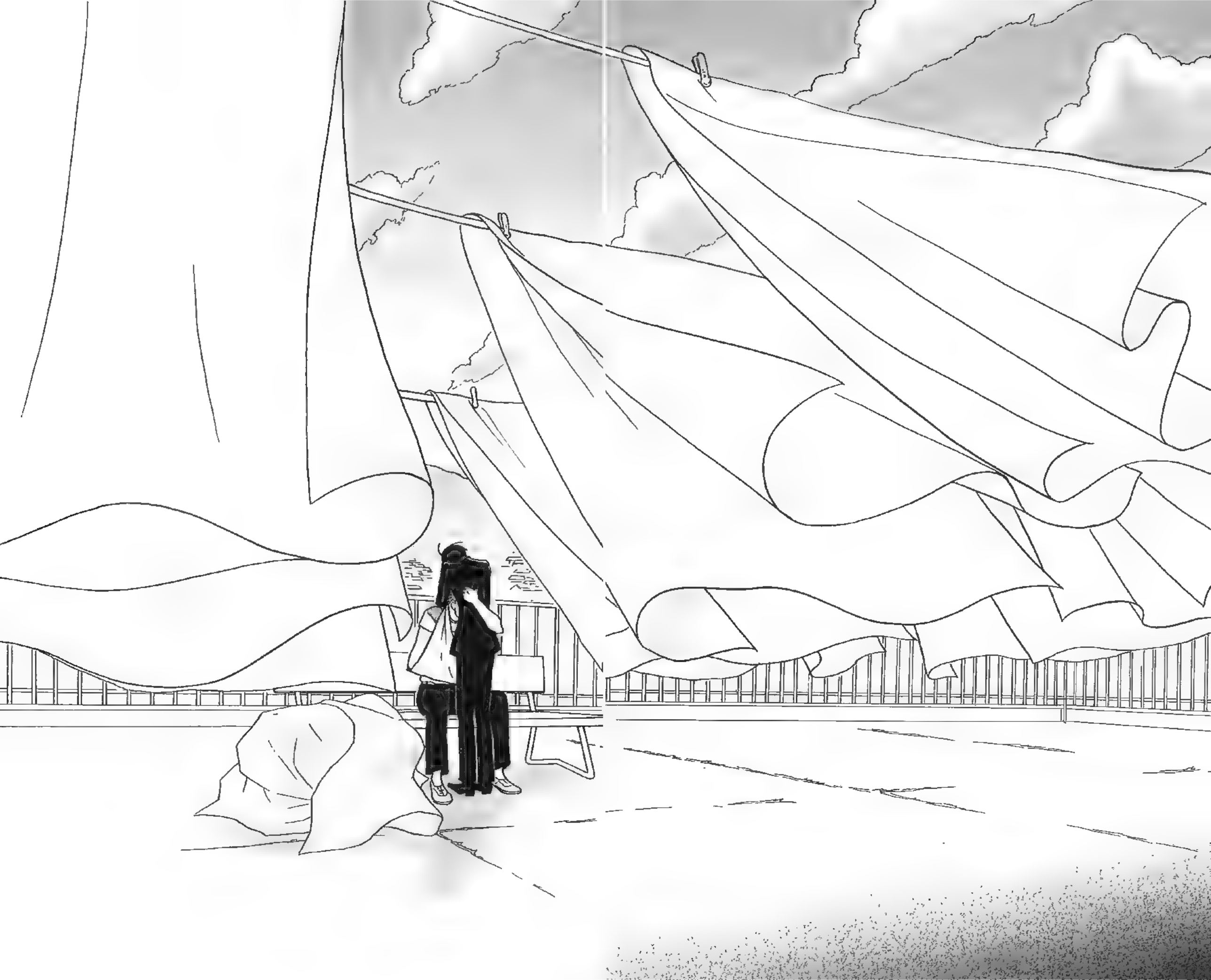

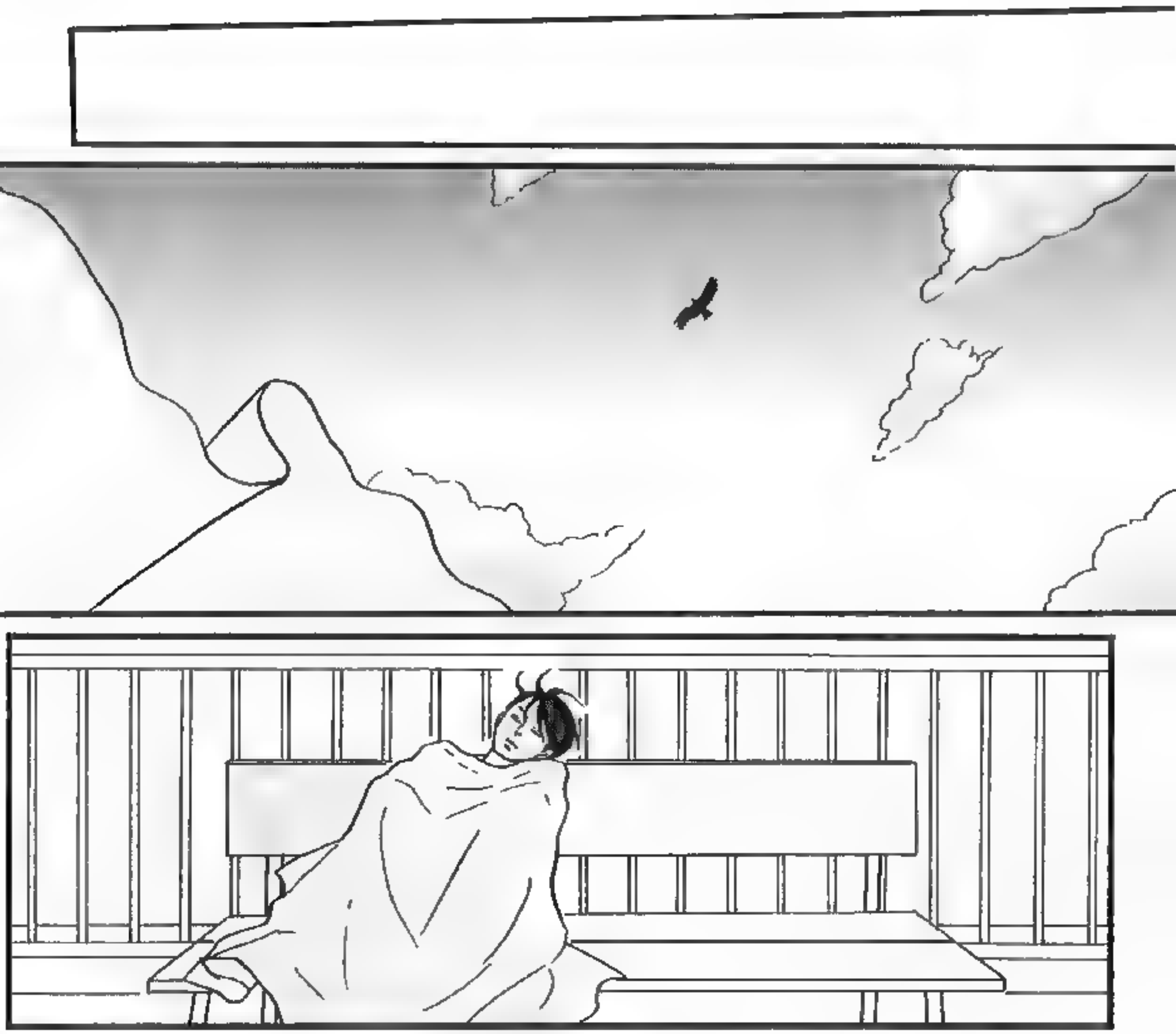

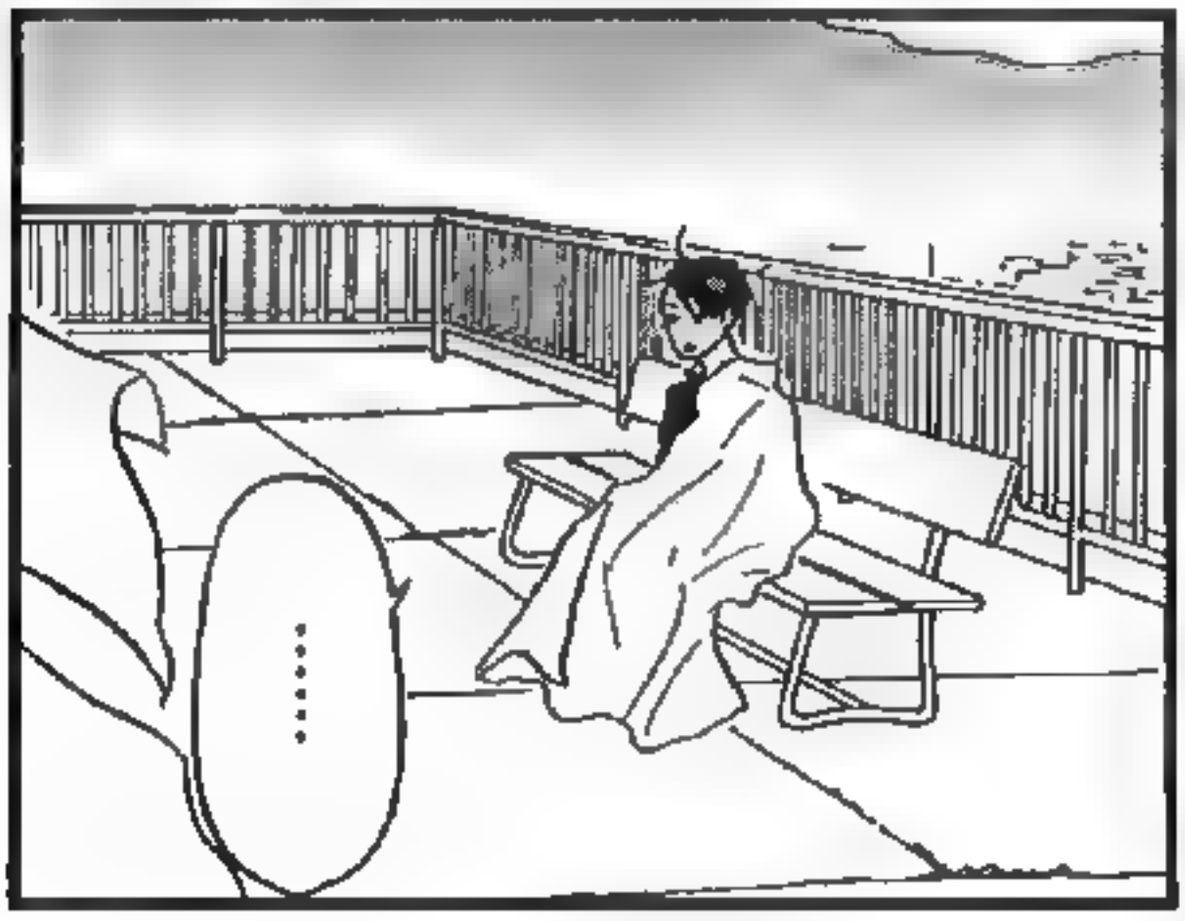
……

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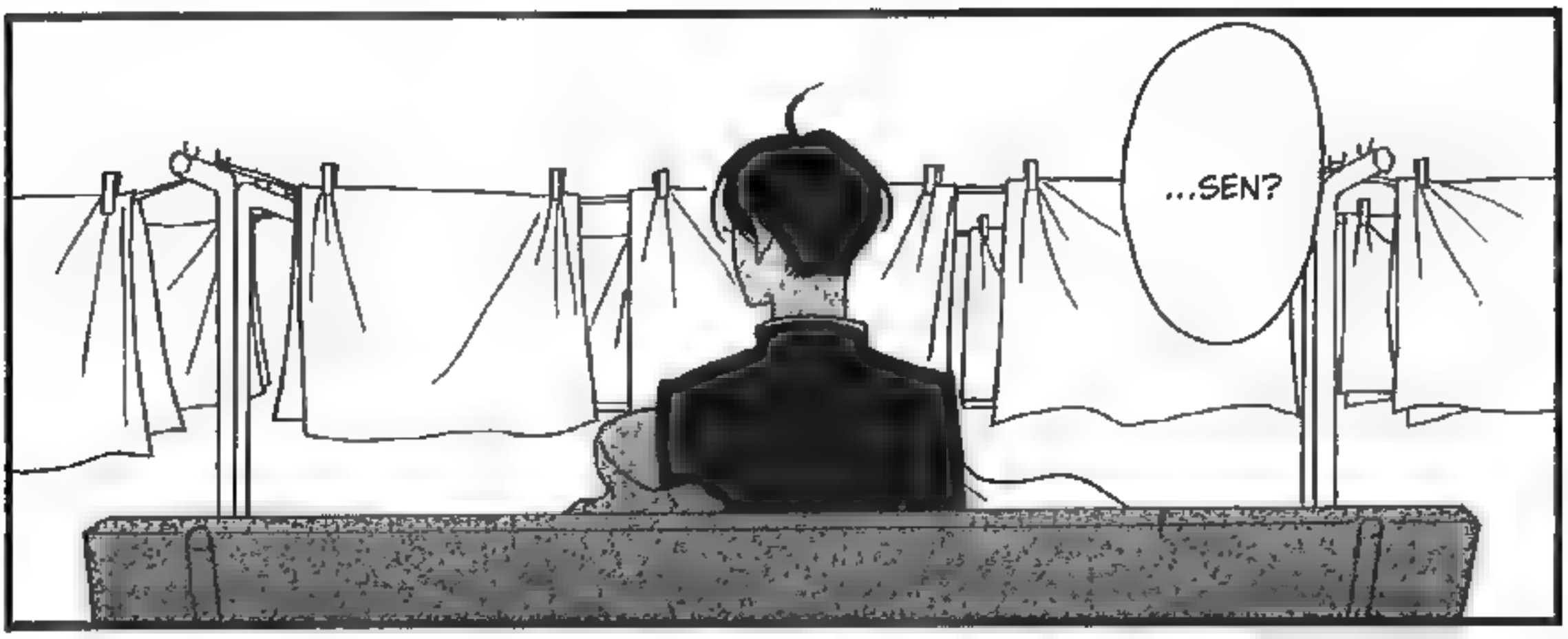
カ!"


...SEN?

THE DOCTOR SAID IT WAS A MIRACLE.
わあ
ISN'T THAT GREAT!

SACCHAN!
000
.0
!!!!!

HE'S NOT HERE ...?

EH?

.....

I BET SEN'S RELIEVED ...

THANK GOOD-NESS ...!!

WHERE DID HE GO...?

WHY ISN'T HE HERE?

AH,

NO ...

ARE YOU A FAMILY MEMBER? THIS WAY.

THE ONE WITH THE SCARF?

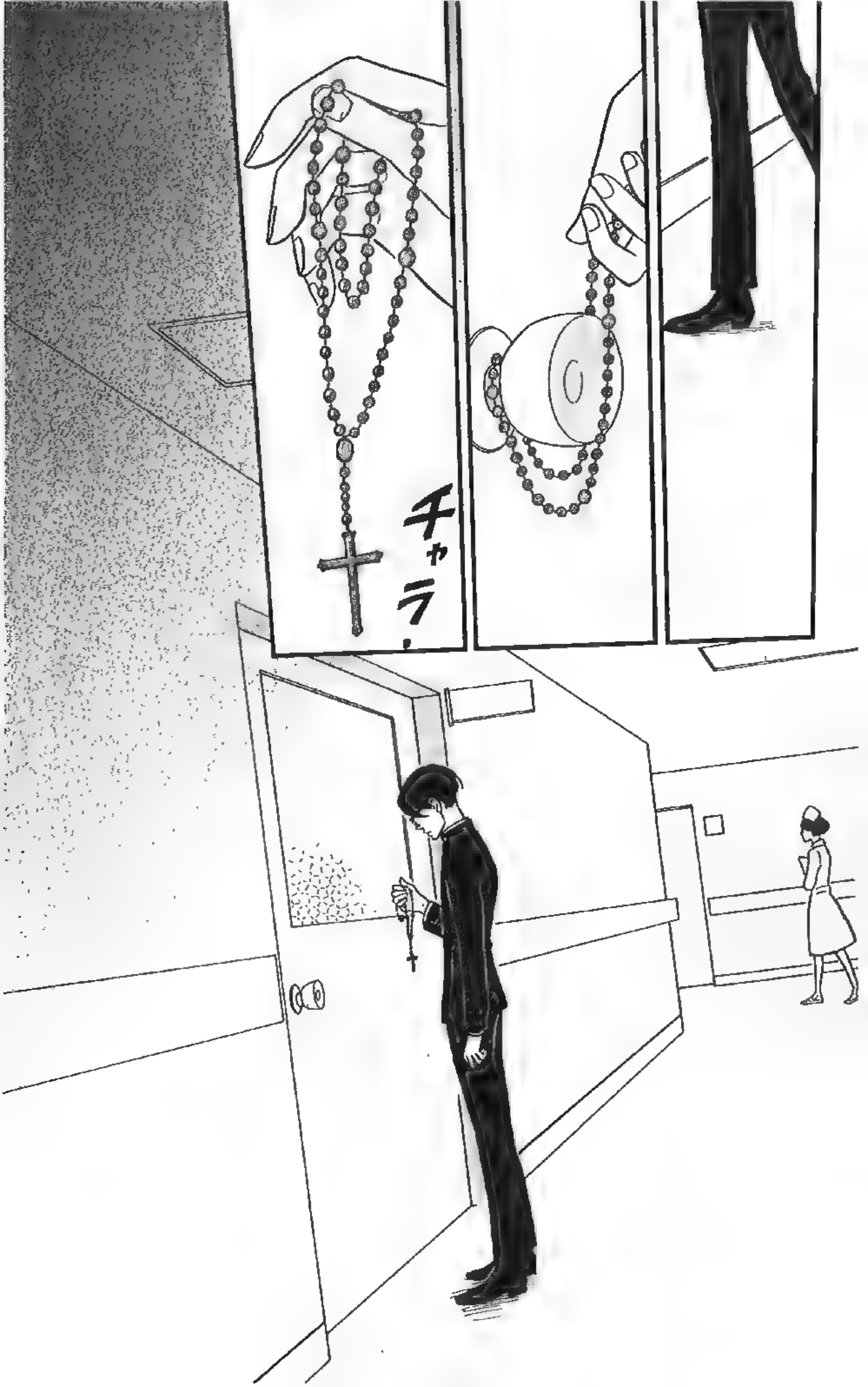
OH!

HE WAS OVER THERE JUST NOW.

UM ... DID YOU SEE,

A TALL GUY WEARING A STRIPED SHIRT HERE?

OKAY.
TANAKA-SAN, WE NEED TO GO.
...EH?
I ASKED HIM IF HE WANTED TO GO IN, BUT HE REFUSED.
HE WAS GONE AFTER THAT.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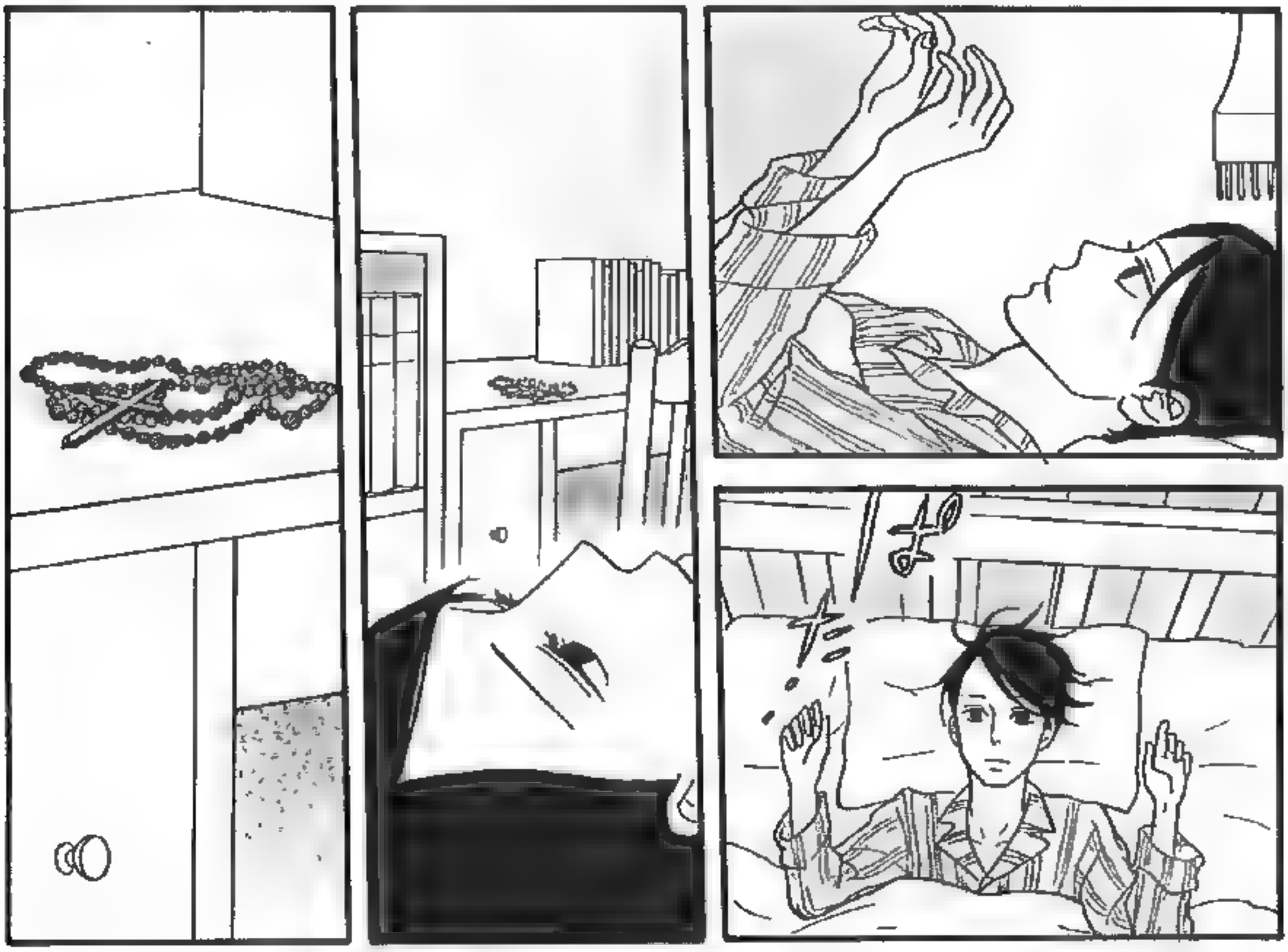
SCÉNE39
（シーン）

SCENE 39

...OKAY.
THE NEXT SONG IS...
MOANI...



YES, RIGHT NOW...

COULD HE BE AT HOME ...?

HIS MOM COULDN'T FIND HIM THERE EITHER...

REALLY... WHAT IS HE DOING?

BUT WE CAN'T FIND HIM...

I'M LOOKING FOR HIM WITH HIS DAD AND THE HOSPITAL STAFF.

IF I FIND HIM THERE, I'M DRAGGING HIM BACK WITH ME NO MATTER WHAT.

I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR HIM AT THE STATION NOW.

WE'RE GOING TO PERFORM TOGETHER.

AND THEN,

BUT,

IF I DON'T FIND HIM...

.....

KAORU-SAN,

.....

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.

THE OLYMPUS ALSO SAID THAT THEY'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT FOR US.

.....

MORE IMPORTANTLY, PLEASE GO FIND SENTAROU, KAORU-SAN.

AND I'M FINE...

I UNDER-STAND.

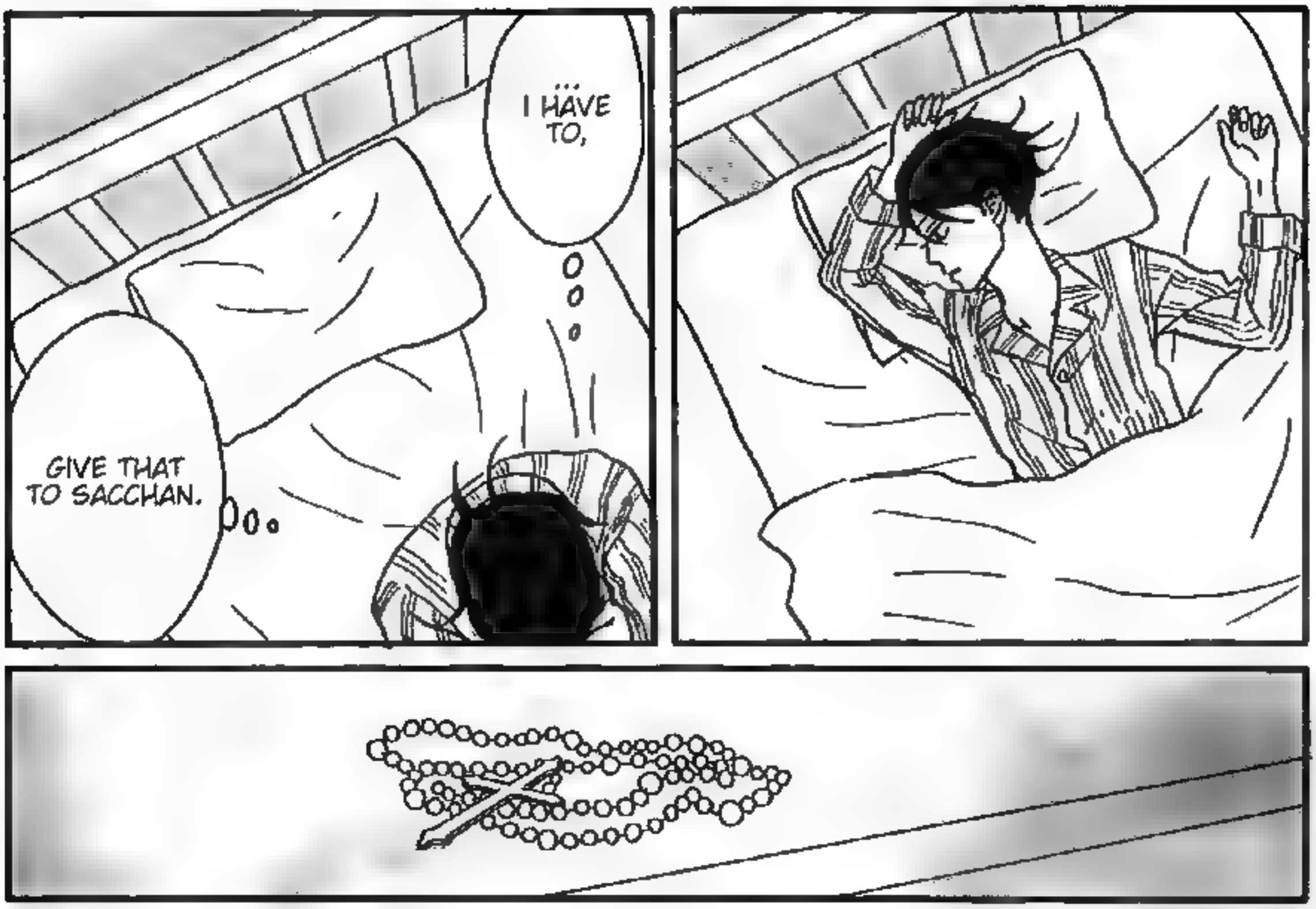
YES...

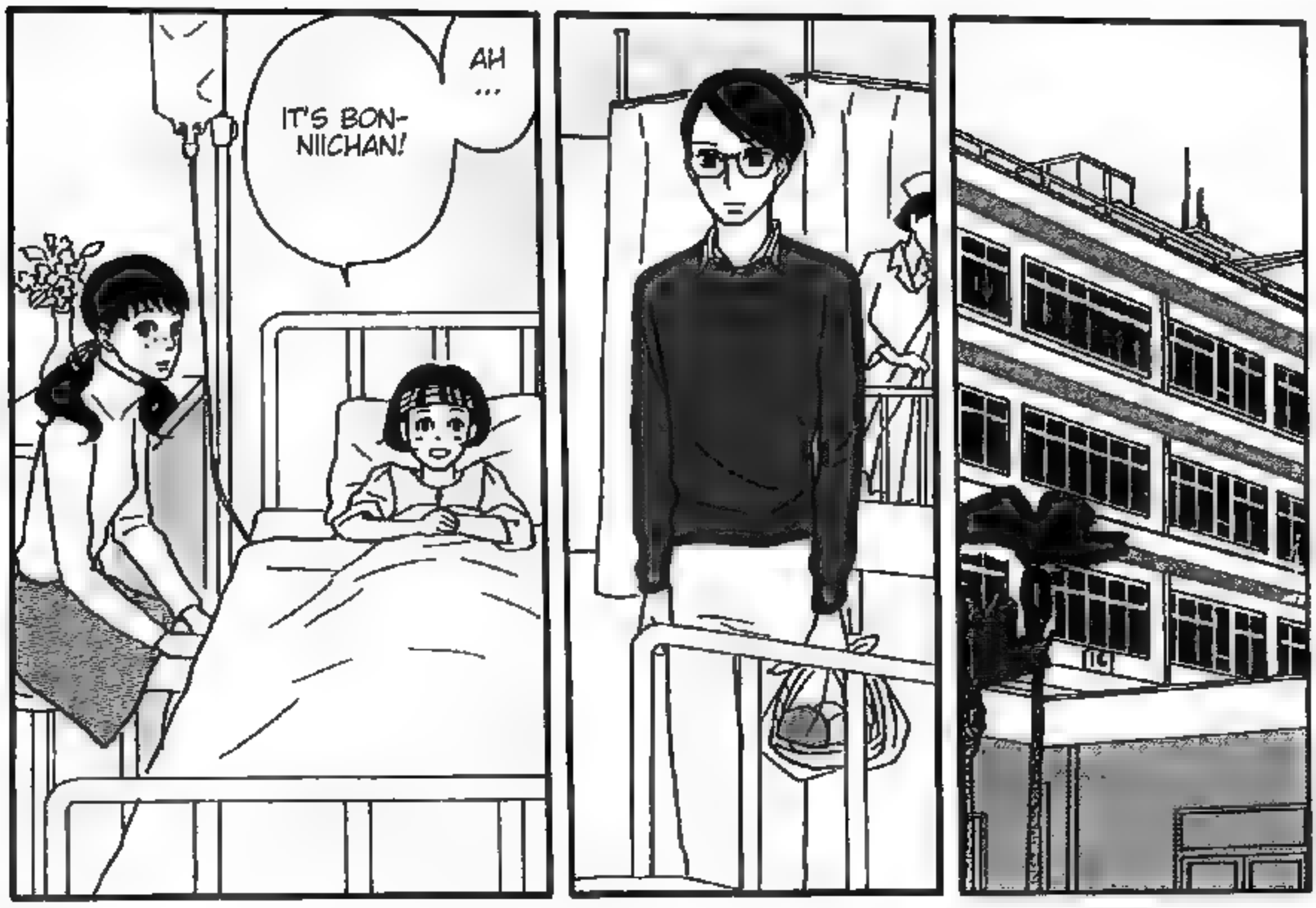
.....

WE COULDN'T FIND HIM,

...IN THE END,

AND THE CULTURE FESTIVAL WAS...


I HAVE TO,
...
GIVE THAT TO SACCHAN.


AH ...
IT'S BON-NIICHAN!

UM...

PLEASE HAVE THIS.

SACCHAN, YOU LIKE APPLES, DON'T YOU?

OH,

BON-NIICHAN,

ISN'T THAT GREAT, SACCHAN...

I...

WANT TO SEE SEN-NIICHAN...

NO ONE I'VE ASKED SEEMED TO KNOW.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE SEN-NIICHAN WENT?

坂道のアポロン⑧

BUT,
YESTERDAY, I SPRAINED MY FOOT IN SCHOOL,
SEN-NIICHAN WOULD NEVER...
LET ME RIDE ON HIS BIKE.
I RAN INTO SEN-NIICHAN...
AND ON THE WAY TO THAT CLASSMATE'S HOUSE,
BUT I HAD TO DELIVER SOMETHING TO A SICK CLASSMATE,
SO I KEPT SAYING HOW PAINFUL THE SPRAIN WAS...
I REALLY WANTED TO RIDE ON THE BIKE...

SACCHAN,
YOU SHOULDN'T BE WORRYING ABOUT THAT.
RIGHT NOW, YOU NEED TO RECOVER.
THE ACCIDENT WAS MY FAULT...
I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO SEN-NIICHAN...

YES...

SENTAROU WILL BE BACK SOON!

YOU'D WANT HIM TO SEE YOU HEALTHY THEN, RIGHT?

I...

SAID THAT TO SACCHAN, BUT,

I'M REALLY ...

KAORU-SAN...

WHERE DID SENTAROU GO?

HE NEVER COMES BACK?

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

...WHAT IF,

A REAL IDIOT!!

A FOOL ...

...HE'S

IF YOU COME BACK, I'M GOING TO PUNCH YOU!

YOU BETTER BE PREPARED!

AND HOW DARE HE,

WASTE THE EFFORTS WE PUT INTO THE CULTURE FESTIVAL!!

BOTH SACCHAN AND RICCHAN,

HOW DARE HE MAKE TWO GIRLS CRY!

HE'LL APPEAR ALL OF A SUDDEN,

WHEN WE LEAST EXPECT IT.

IT'S HIM WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

……

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…

YEAH.

HE'S GOING TO GRIN AND ASK, 'HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?'

DON'T YOU THINK SO TOO?

HE'LL BE BACK.

…YOU'RE RIGHT.

KAORU-SAN...

.....

IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR ME TO NOT SEE YOU HOME?

YEAH.

I HAVE TO GO PICK UP SOME GROCER-IES.

KAORU-SAN,

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME, OKAY?

HEHE ...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

BYE!

.....

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, RICCHAN...?

I HAVE YET TO TELL RICCHAN,

ABOUT MY UNIVERSITY PLANS.

"KAORU-SAN,

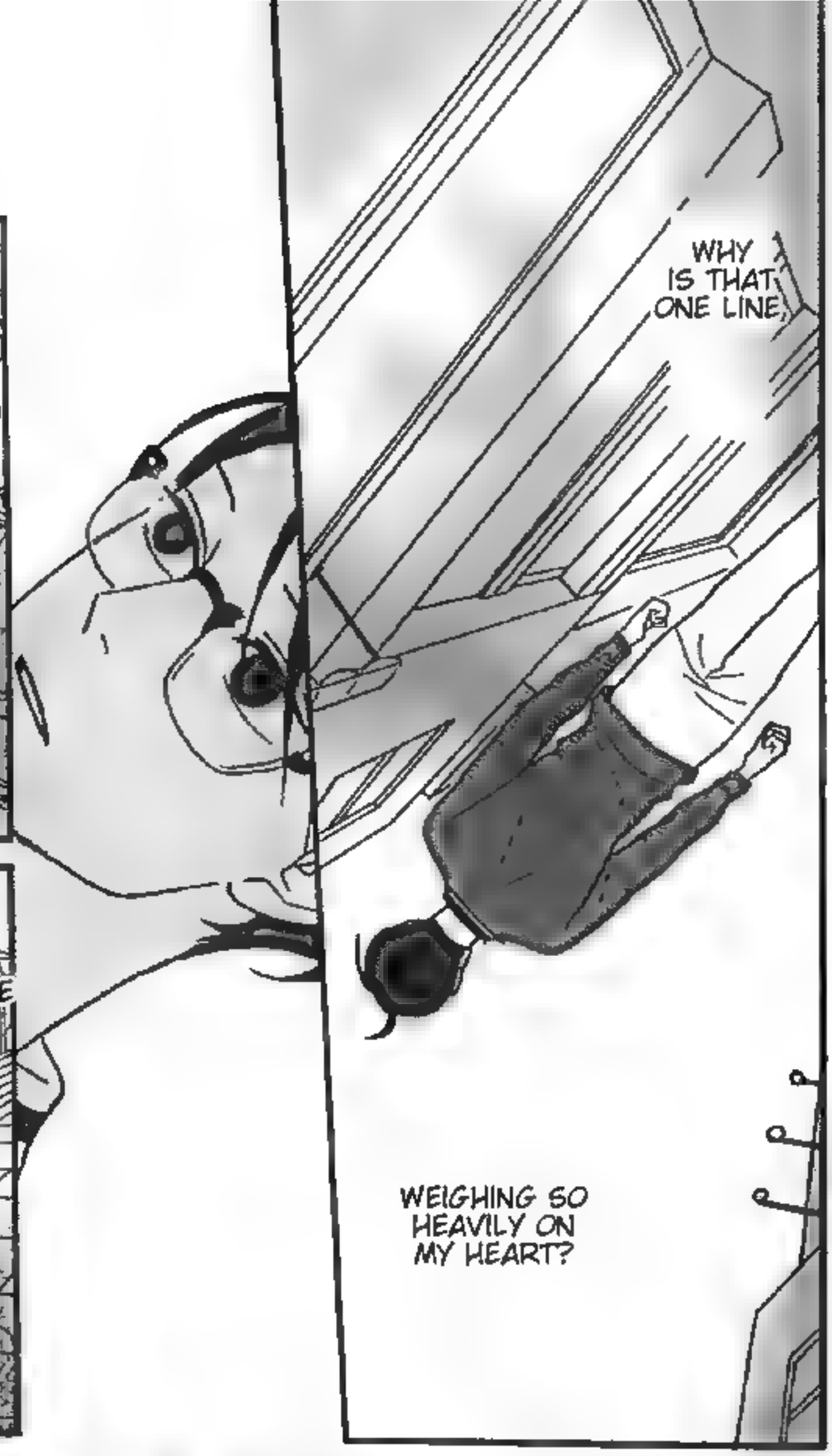
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME, OKAY?"

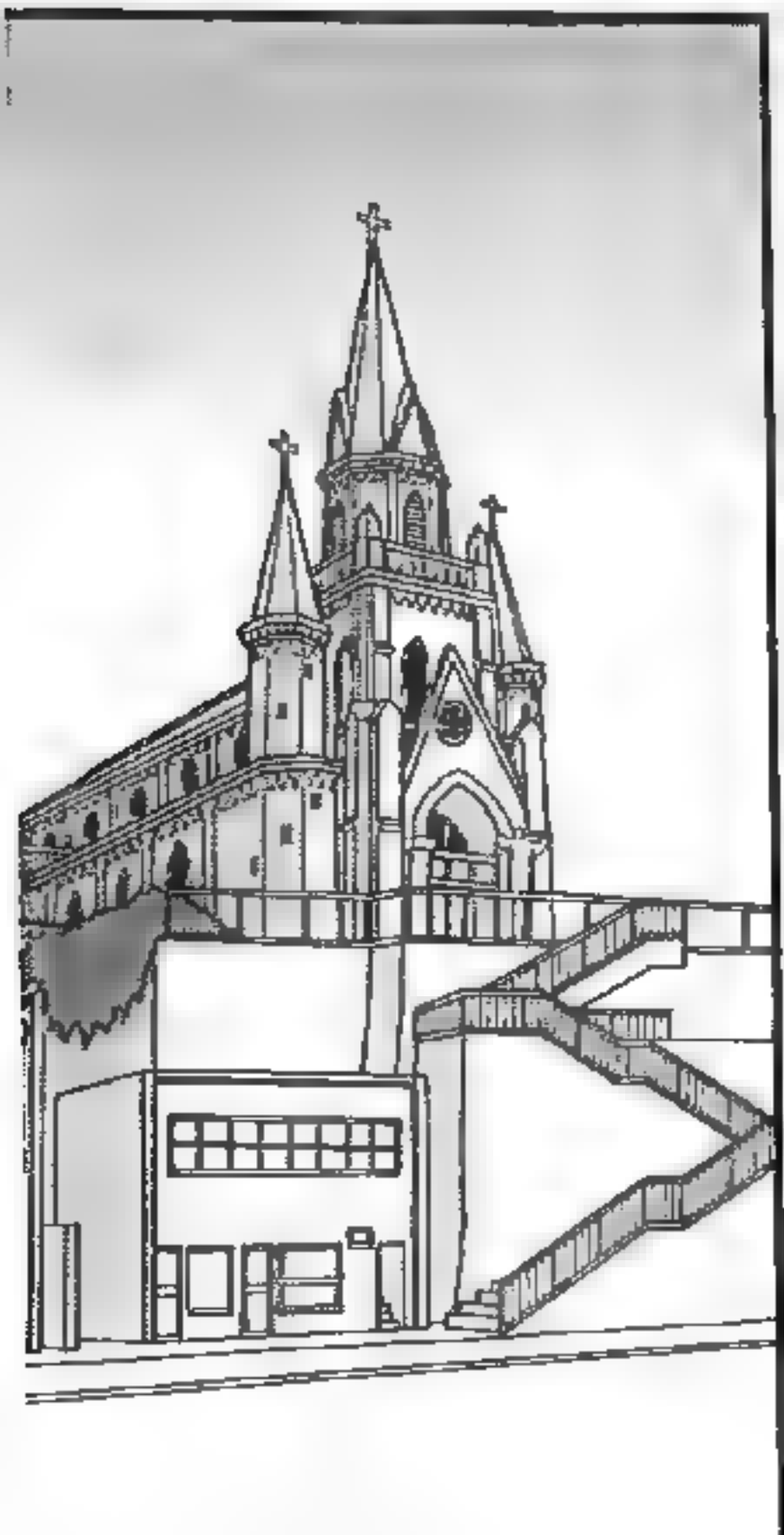
...COME TO THINK OF IT,

坂道のアポロン⑧

COME OUT, SEN.

I KNOW YOU'RE SOMEWHERE OVER THERE.
YOU'RE GOING TO TRY TO SURPRISE ME, RIGHT?


WHY IS THAT ONE LINE,
WEIGHING SO HEAVILY ON MY HEART?



YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH, KAWABUCHI-SAN.

NO... I'M THE REASON WHY SENTAROU LEFT.

I THOUGHT EVERYTHING WOULD BE FINE...

I RETURNED HOME JUST RECENTLY...

AND BECAUSE I FINALLY MANAGED TO TALK TO HIM,

坂道のアポロン⑧

HE PROBABLY HASN'T GOTTEN OVER IT.
BUT,
I'VE MADE EXCUSES,
IN MY WEAKNESS,
AND DID TERRIBLE THINGS TO HIM...
SO YOU WERE PROBABLY AFFECTED BY THAT...
AT THAT TIME,
...THAT WAS,
RIGHT AFTER THE PASSING OF YOUR MOTHER.
THERE WAS ONCE WHEN ...
I GAVE UP ALTOGETHER, AND TRIED TO RETURN HIM TO THE CHURCH.

EVEN NOW, HE...

IS STILL HAUNTED BY HIS PAST ...

KAWABU CHI-SAN.

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE, IT ALL MAKES SENSE ...

I CAN'T FORGET,

HIS EYES WHEN HE LOOKED UP AT ME.

BUT THAT CHILD,

WAS TRULY HAPPY THAT YOU RETURNED TO THE FAMILY.

IT'S TRUE,

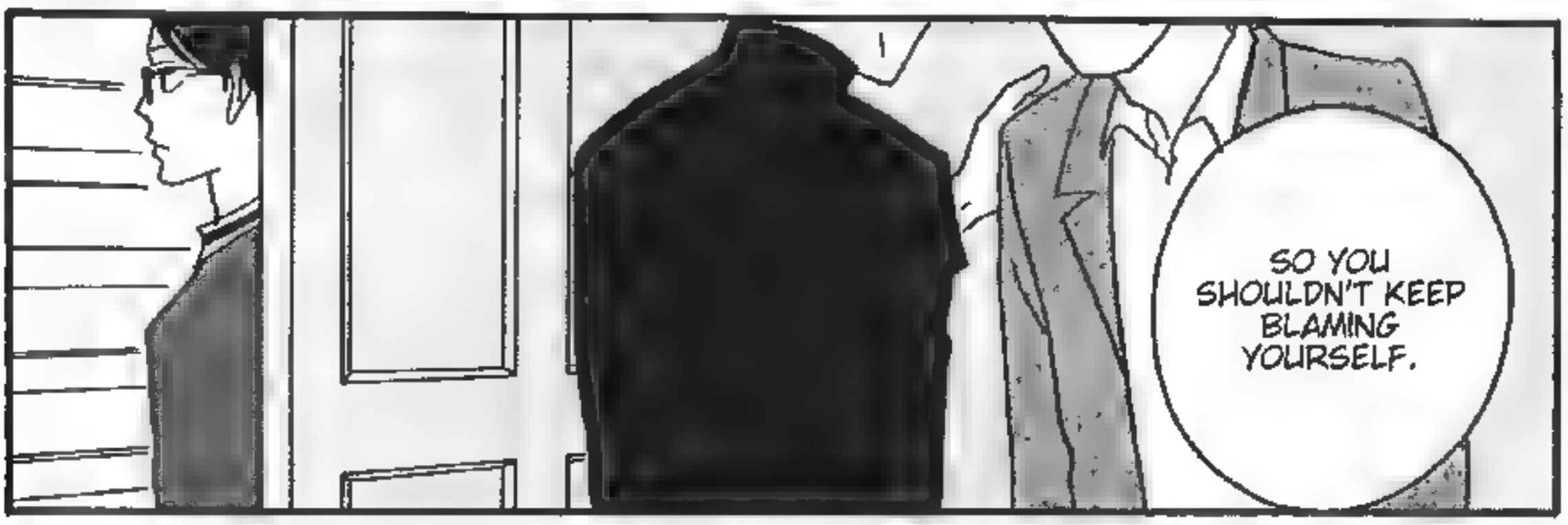
THAT SENTAROU MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN OVER WHAT HAPPENED THEN,

HE WAS HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO SHARE A MEAL WITH HIS FAMILY...

AND HE TREASURES THE GIFT YOU GAVE HIM DEEPLY.

坂道のアポロン⑧

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THAT HE LEFT.
I'M SURE HE IS THANKFUL TO YOU,
FOR RAISING HIM AS ONE OF YOUR OWN.
EVEN THOUGH HE ISN'T YOUR REAL SON,


SO YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP BLAMING YOURSELF.

UM...
!

UH, UM,

I'M NISHIMI, A FRIEND OF KAWABUCHI SENTAROU.

OH!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO EAVES-DROP.

I'M SORRY,

YEAH ...

AND I REMEMBER SENTAROU DRAGGING YOU IN HERE IN THE PAST...

WELL, COME ON IN.

SO YOU'RE BON-KUN!

I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT YOU.

WERE YOU LOOKING FOR SENTAROU?

坂道のアポロン⑧

HM...

HE CAN'T BE HIDING IN THE CHURCH, THAT'S FOR SURE.

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY PLACES HE MAY HAVE GONE TO?

NO, I...

RAN OUT OF PLACES TO LOOK.

WHEN HE WAS STILL LIVING IN THE CHURCH.

IN THE PAST, HE USED TO PLAY HIDE-AND-SEEK HERE.

YOU SEE,

...

DIDN'T YOU HEAR FROM SENTAROU?

HE SAID THAT HE TOLD YOU EVERYTHING...

YES.

...EH?

LIVING?

IN THE CHURCH?

BUT SINCE HE WAS OBVIOUSLY OF MIXED PARENTAGE,

HE WAS AN ANGELIC CHILD,

kya-haha!

hey!

don't play with the altar!

catch him!

THAT CHILD, SENTAROU,

STAYED IN THE CHURCH TILL WHEN HE WAS 3 YEARS OLD,

THERE WASN'T ANYONE WHO WAS WILLING TO TAKE HIM IN.

BEFORE HE WAS TAKEN IN BY THE KAWABUCHI FAMILY.

NO,

HE SAID THAT HIS UNCLE TOOK HIM IN AFTER HIS MOM ABANDONED HIM...

?

FROM WHAT I HEARD...

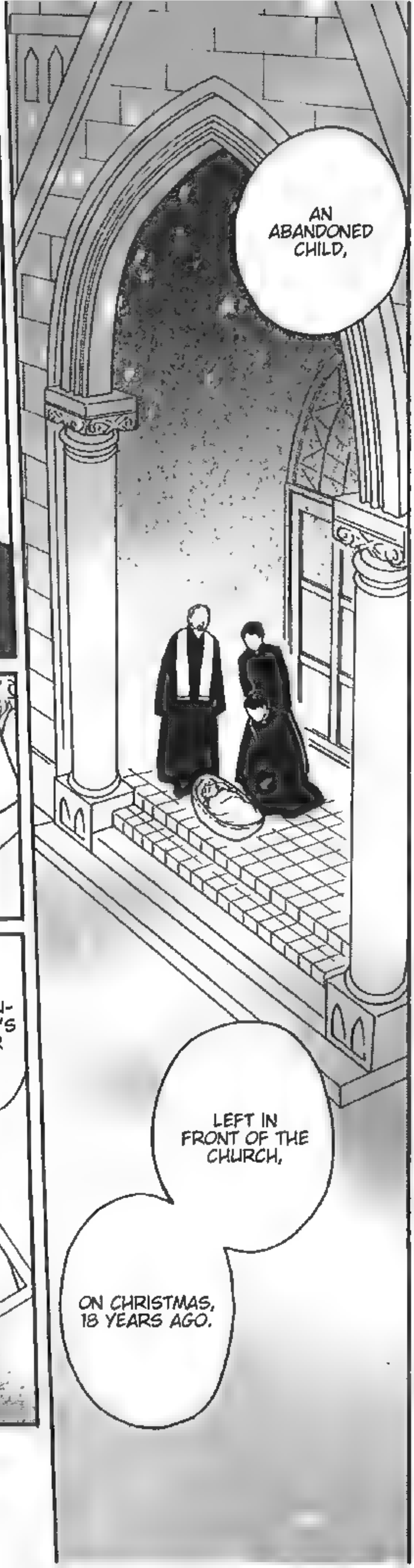
IN TRUTH, SENTAROU IS...

THAT WAS JUST A STORY TO CONVINCE HIS GRANDMOTHER TO LET HIM STAY WITH THEM.

HIS GRANDMOTHER HATED THE AMERICANS, SO THE KAWABUCHIS DECIDED THAT IT WAS BEST TO LET HER BELIEVE SO.

"MY BIRTHDAY IS ON CHRISTMAS."

SHE HAD GONE MISSING A FEW YEARS BEFORE SENTAROU WAS DISCOVERED,
WAS WORKING WITH THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS.
BUT KAWABU-CHI-SAN'S SISTER
SO THE STORY COULD WELL BE TRUE...


AN ABANDONED CHILD,
LEFT IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH,
ON CHRISTMAS, 18 YEARS AGO.

KNOWS THE TRUTH.

BUT NO ONE,

UM...

FATHER,

HE... LEFT THIS BEHIND.

.....

SENTAROU KNEW,

THAT THIS ROSARY WAS PROBABLY...

NOT A REAL MEMENTO OF HIS MOTHER.

EVEN AS A CHILD,

.....

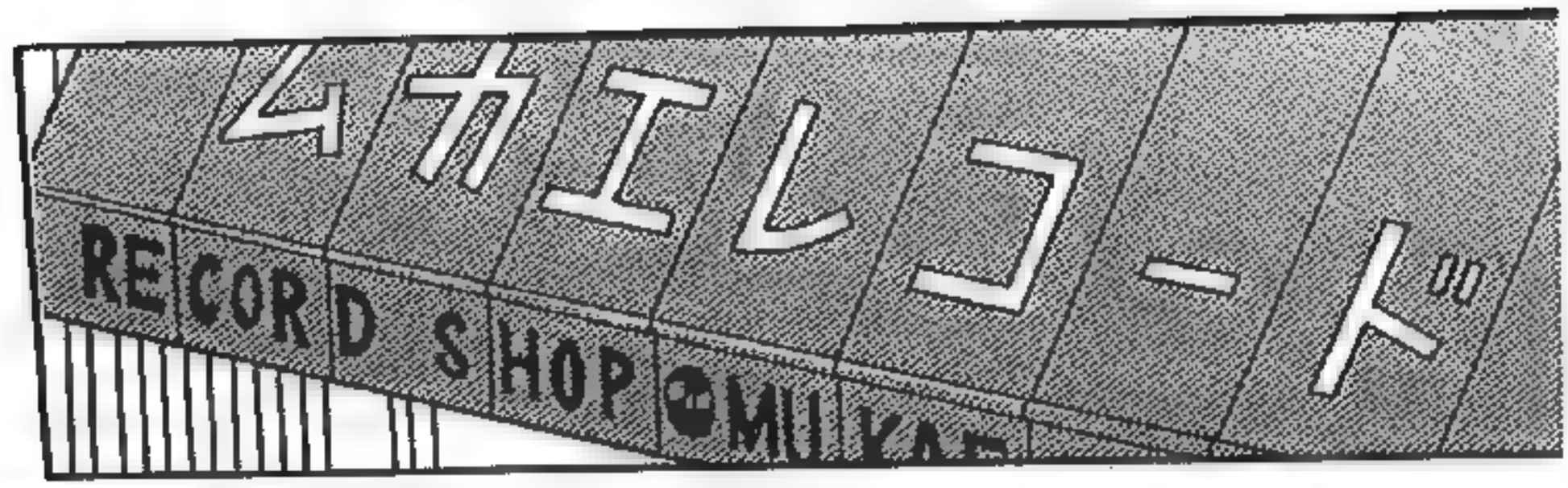
EVEN SO,

THE REASON WHY HE HAS KEPT THE ROSARY SO CLOSE TO HIM,

WAS BECAUSE IF HE HAD LET IT GO,

HE FELT THAT HE WOULD BE CUT OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD,

AND HE WAS AFRAID OF THAT...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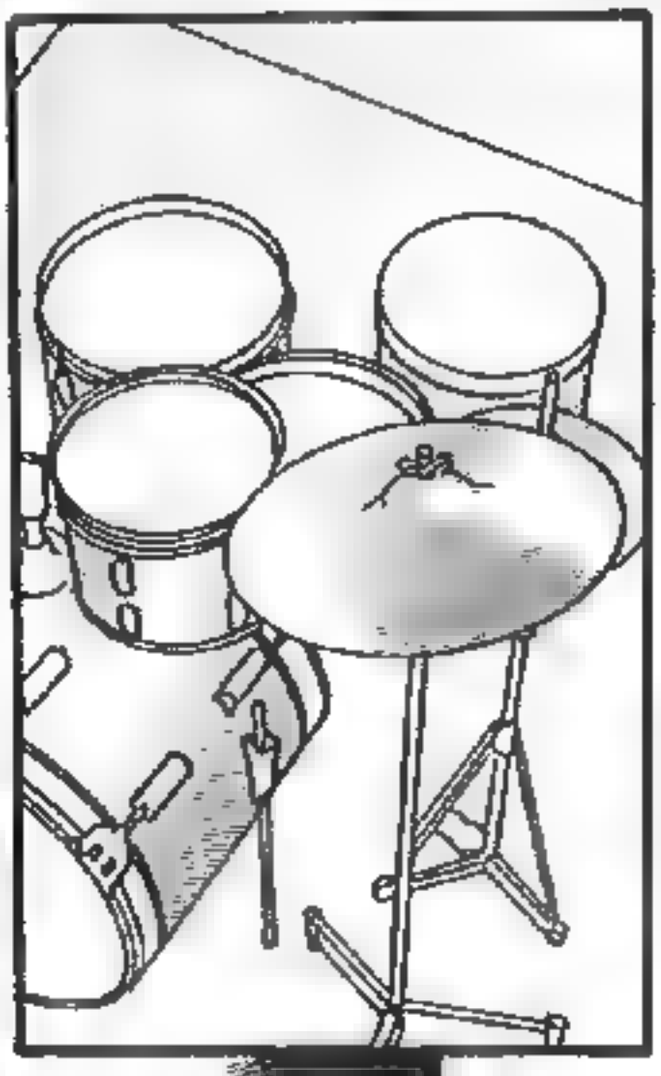
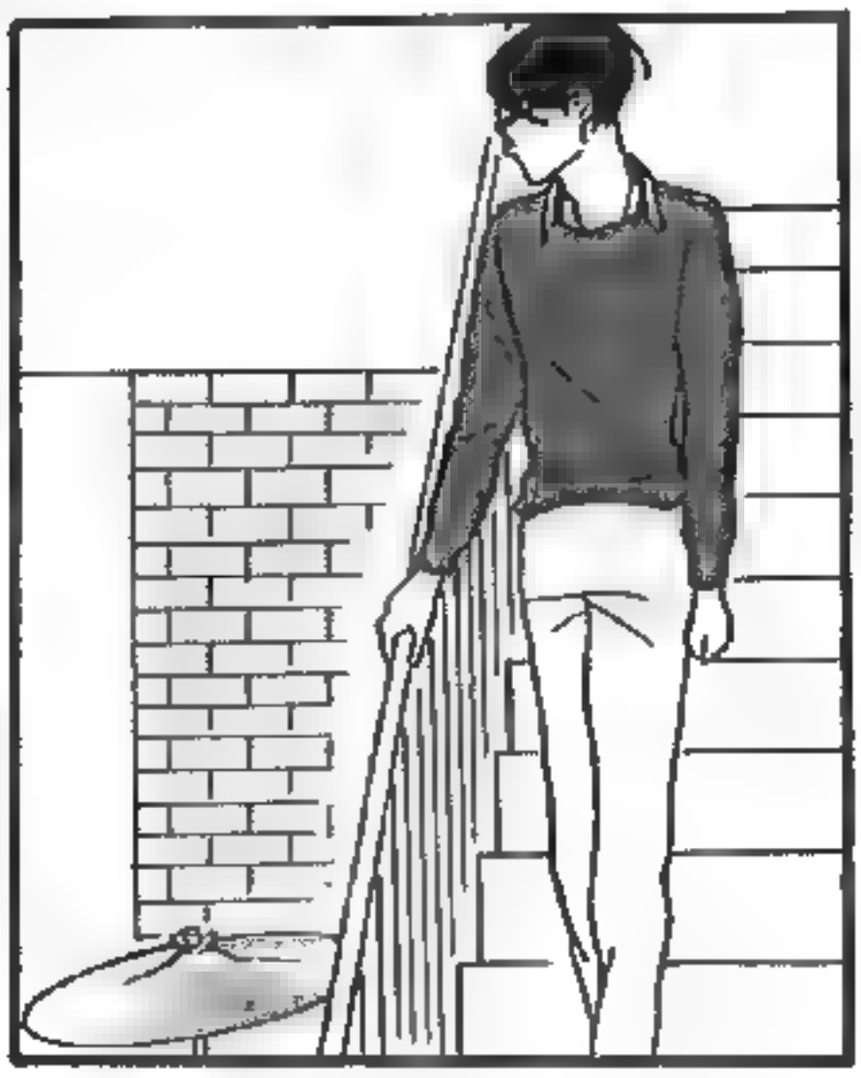




ALWAYS SUCH A SAD SONG?

WAS MOANIN',

A CRY OF GRIEF,

AND OF LAMENTATION.

THE 'MOAN' IN 'MOANIN'' IS...

SO I NEVER NOTICED IT.

HE HAD ALWAYS PLAYED THIS SONG WITH SUCH ENERGY,

カチャ

ARE YOU REALLY,

NOT COMING BACK?

YOU IDIOT!

...SE,

I THOUGHT SEN HAD COME BACK.

HAHA,

SO IT WAS YOU ON THE DRUMS!

……

……

HAHA…

I THINK,

HE'S NOT COMING BACK.

UNCLE…

WHAT,

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, BON…

PLAY A SESSION TOGETHER AGAIN.

…EH?

WE CAN…

NEVER,

NEVER AGAIN.

SCENE 40

YOU'VE GOT THE TOP SCORE BACK, NISHIMI.

I WAS WORRIED FOR A WHILE BECAUSE YOUR GRADES FELL,

BUT I SEE THAT YOU'RE FINALLY SERIOUS.

IS IT BECAUSE THE FINALS ARE COMING?

OR PERHAPS,

YOU'VE GOTTEN RID OF SOMETHING THAT WAS DISTRACTING YOU FROM YOUR STUDIES?

WELL, IN ANY CASE, I'M RELIEVED.

YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO GO TO TOKYO, DIDN'T YOU?

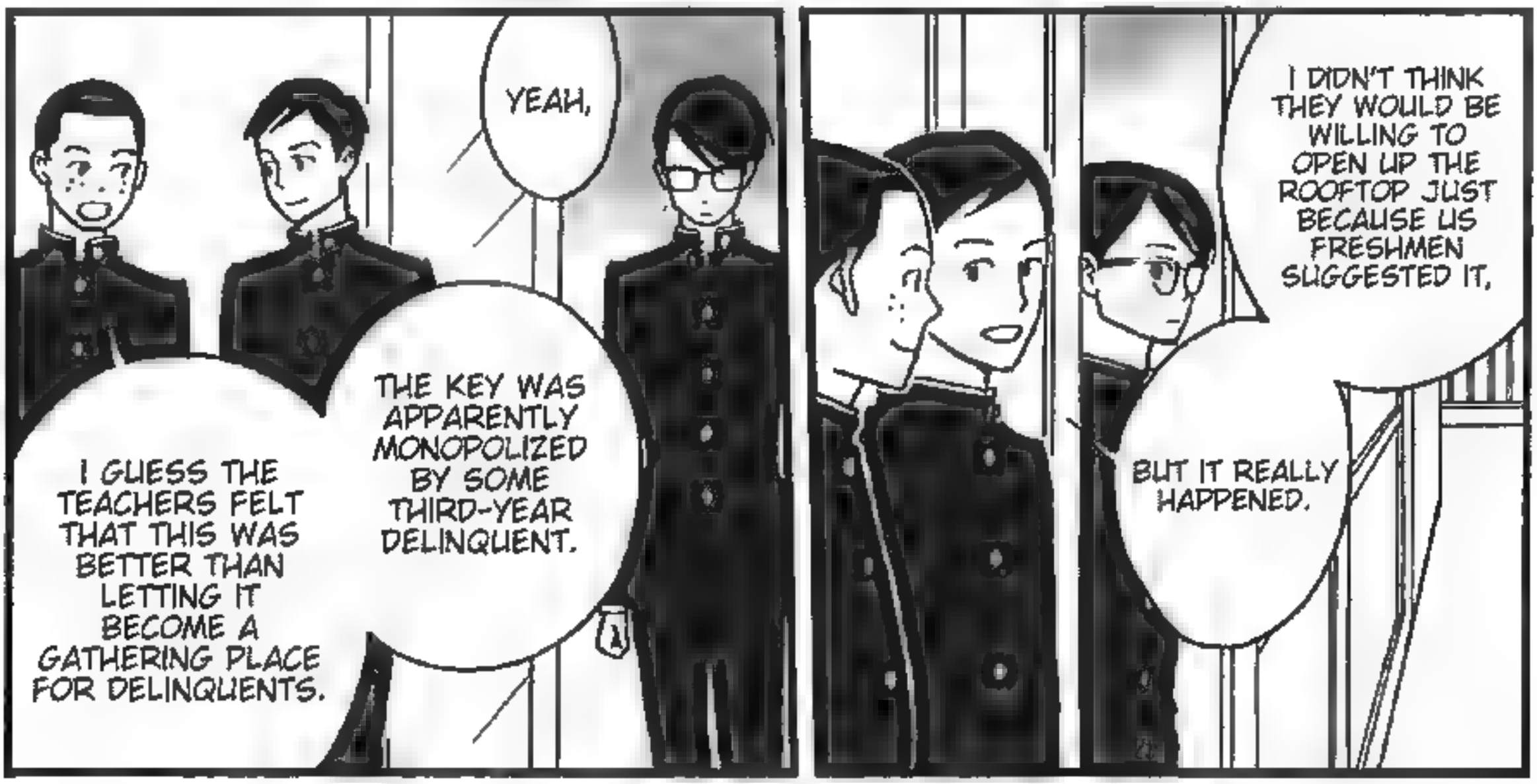
I ASSUME THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE TO YOUR CHOICE OF K UNIVERSITY'S FACULTY OF MEDICINE?

I think I'll be crowded!

.....

You may go.

YES.


YEAH,
I GUESS THE TEACHERS FELT THAT THIS WAS BETTER THAN LETTING IT BECOME A GATHERING PLACE FOR DELINQUENTS.
THE KEY WAS APPARENTLY MONOPOLIZED BY SOME THIRD-YEAR DELINQUENT.
I DIDN'T THINK THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO OPEN UP THE ROOFTOP JUST BECAUSE US FRESHMEN SUGGESTED IT.
BUT IT REALLY HAPPENED.

HEY!

BONTAROU-KUN! DID YOU COME UP TO PLAY, TOO?

REALLY!

I'M SURE EVERYONE IS HAPPY THAT THE ROOFTOP IS OPEN.

WE DID A GOOD THING, DIDN'T WE?

COME ON!

WE'RE PLAYING VOLLEYBALL WITH THE GIRLS!

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN IN?

.....

I'LL PASS.

BONTAROU-KUN!!

.....

...THAT'S TRUE.

THANKS.

YOU NEED TO MOVE ON,

IN THE END, THE ONLY PERSON YOU CAN DEPEND ON IN LIFE IS YOURSELF.

I KNOW YOU'RE LONELY WITHOUT KAWABUCHI-KUN!

BUT THAT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE GOT TO GET OVER!

カ コ キ

!!

EH!?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SATOU ?

AH.. UM...

EH!?

SORRY! I GOT THE WRONG PERSON!

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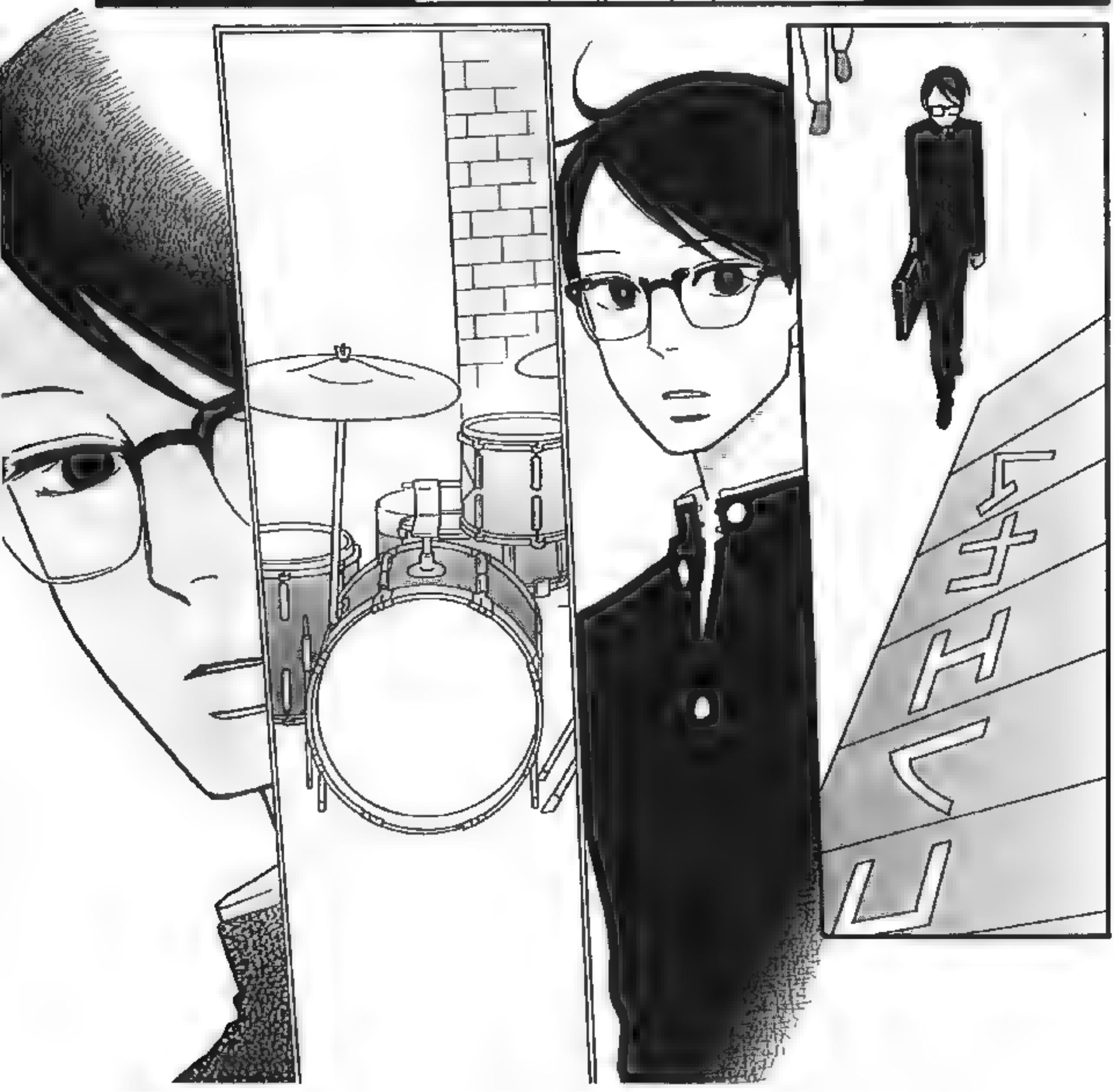
坂道のアポロン⑧

"COME OVER TO THE STUDIO ONCE IN A WHILE."
"BUT DON'T BE SO DEPRESSED."
"...WELL, LIKE YOU SAID, HE MAY NEVER COME BACK."
"HOW ABOUT THAT, BON?"
"IF THERE'S TIME, LETS PLAY A SESSION TOGETHER."



"THAT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE GOT TO GET OVER!"

DAD

SHALL I CALL HIM?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR NISHIMI-KUN?
MUKAE-SAN,
AH, NO,
IT'S OKAY.
カーン
コーン
ガタ
キーン
ガタ

TOKIE-CHAN...

YOU LOOK DEPRESSED, IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?

RICCHAN!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, SO WHY DON'T WE GO GET SOMETHING SWEET TOGETHER?

coffee

しらゆり
SHIRAYURI

.....

.....

MM---!

IT'S COLD!

MILKSHAKES TASTE BEST IN WINTER!

坂道のアポロン⑧

THAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT KAWABU-CHI-KUN?
COULD IT BE,
Y, YES.
AH,
EH?
EARTH TO RITSUKO-SAAN!
GOOD MORNING!
はっ
THERE'S THAT TOO...
YE,
YES
...
IT'S HOW YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO HIM OR GO HOME TOGETHER RECENTLY, RIGHT?
I KNOW, IT'S NISHIMI-SAN, ISN'T IT!
AH!
ACTU-ALLY...
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO WALK HOME WITH MARUO RECENTLY AT ALL!
IT'S THE SAME WITH ME!

EVEN THOUGH I UNDER-STAND THAT...

BUT...

I CAN'T HELP BUT WORRY.

EVEN IF I WANT TO MEET HIM, I HAVE TO BEAR WITH IT FOR OUR SAKES!

THE FINALS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER, AND THEY HAVE TO FOCUS ON THEIR STUDIES...!

YES, I UNDER-STAND ALL TOO WELL...

WE MIGHT NEVER GET BACK TOGETHER AGAIN.

IF OUR HEARTS ARE SEPARATED NOW...

YEAH.

YOU NEED TO ASK HIM TO WALK HOME WITH YOU ONCE IN A WHILE,

OR STUDY TOGETHER!

IF YOU DON'T CREATE CHANCES FOR YOURSELF...

RICCHAN,

YOU CAN'T JUST WAIT.

YOU NEED TO BE MORE AGGRESSIVE!

EH?

.....

TOKIE-CHA...

カラ～ン

カラ～ン

GO, RICCHAN!

EH!?

WA,

WAIT!

I'LL PAY FOR YOU!

WAIT, LOOK!

ISN'T THAT NISHIMI-SAN?!

EH!?

...WHAT A SURPRISE!

YOU CAME OUT SO SUDDENLY.

NN!

!!

WERE YOU EATING SOMETHING?

THERE'S A BIT OF CREAM ON YOUR MOUTH.

KAORU-SAN... YOU AREN'T COMING TO THE STUDIO TODAY?

坂道のアポロン⑧

...THAT'S TRUE.

YOU'RE RIGHT,

IT'S ALREADY THAT TIME OF THE YEAR.

...YEAH,

SORRY.

THE EXAMS ARE COMING, SO I'VE DECIDED NOT TO GO FOR NOW.

I ALWAYS GO TO THE LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL TO STUDY.

NO ...

SO, ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME?

WAIT!

BYE...

PLEASE TELL UNCLE,

THAT I'M SORRY FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO COME.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND IN ENGLISH AND MATH,

SO I WAS HOPING KAORU-SAN COULD HELP ME OUT.

WHY DON'T WE STUDY TOGETHER IN MY ROOM?

KAORU-SAN...

WHY DON'T YOU STUDY AT MY PLACE?!

EH...?

.....

坂道のアポロン⑧

THE SHOP'S CLOSED TODAY...

WHERE IS UNCLE?

HE'S GONE OFF ON AN ERRAND, SO HE'S OUT TODAY.

KAORU-SAN, IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME SEEING MY ROOM, ISN'T IT?

IT'S A LITTLE UNEXPECTED.

!

JUST A MINUTE,

I'LL CLEAR THE TABLE.

MAYBE RICCHAN'S BEEN LONELY ...

I SHOULD HAVE SHOWED MORE CONCERN...

I'VE BEEN TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH MYSELF RECENTLY.

.....

RICCHAN ...

SEEMED REALLY DESPERATE JUST NOW.

AFTER THE CULTURE FESTIVAL, THE POPULAR DUO

I WAS, SORTING THESE OUT YESTERDAY.

...AH

AHAHA.

AND LOOK AT SENTAROU'S FACE ON THIS ONE...

PLEASE STOP TALKING ABOUT HIM.

THIS IS MY FAVOURITE PICTURE.

THE BOTH OF YOU LOOK REALLY HAPPY!

LET'S BEGIN.

YOU NEEDED HELP WITH ENGLISH AND MATH, RIGHT?

FIRST, YOU NEED TO INVERT THE TERMS.

THE POSITIONS OF THE SUBJECT AND VERB ARE REVERSED BEFORE THE "SO".

IN A SPOKEN SENTENCE, IT WOULD BE...

UM... I'M SORRY ABOUT JUST NOW.

I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT HOW KAORU-SAN FELT.

WHEN I SHOWED YOU THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS ...

.....

YES?

I KNOW KAORU-SAN'S BEEN SUFFERING THE MOST,

SINCE SENTAROU DISAPPEARED.

I'M FINE.

坂道のアポロン⑧

LET'S CONTINUE.
THE 'IT' HERE REFERS TO...
EVEN IF HE ISN'T AROUND, RICCHAN IS STILL WITH ME.

!.....

KAORU-SAN...

WAIT, KAORU-SAN...

NO...!

...I'M GLAD THAT,

WAI...

SINCE IT MEANS THAT,

HE ISN'T AROUND NOW.

I CAN BE ALONE WITH RICCHAN.

STOP!!

PLEASE ...

WAIT ...

STOP, KAORU-SAN...

KAORU-SAN, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY...

WHAT...

...EH?

SAYING THINGS LIKE,

YOU'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT SENTAROU,

WHY DO YOU SAY SUCH THINGS?

WHY...?

はあ！

はあ！

TO HEAR SUCH WORDS FROM KAORU-SAN...!
EVEN IF IT WAS A JOKE,
I DON'T WANT.

コポポポ
コポポポ

I'M...

SORRY.

コオオオオ

コオオオオ

RICCHAN,

I COULDN'T FIND THE RIGHT TIME TO SAY THIS,

BUT AFTER I GRADUATE, I'M GOING TO A UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO.

GO HOME FOR TODAY.

...I'LL

I'M THE LOWEST OF THE LOW.

WHY DID IT HAVE TO BECOME LIKE THIS?

THEN EVERYTHING...

IF IT HAS COME TO THIS,

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO BURN?

KAORU-KUN!

AH.

I'LL GET RID OF WHAT I DON'T NEED.

IT'S A PAIN TO MOVE IT ALL TO TOKYO.

JUST THIS.

YES,

THAT'S A LOT!

AND THERE'S KEROSENE HERE.

YES,

MARIKO-CHAN, DO YOU HAVE A MATCH?

THE FIRE'S GOING OUT...

YOU'RE GOING TO BURN THAT!?

EH...? ISN'T THAT A RECORD!?

IT'S TOO HEAVY TO BRING ALONG.

YEAH.

I'M GETTING RID OF EVERYTHING.

〈坂道のアポロン〉⑧＊おわり＊

SAKAMICHI NO APOLLON ⑧ END

あとがき

AFTERWORD

THANK YOU FOR READING VOLUME 8.

I'M GLAD THAT WE GET TO MEET AGAIN.

AFTER THE DISASTER, I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO VARIOUS SONGS PLAYED ON THE RADIO WHEN I'M FEELING ANXIOUS.

THIS MADE ME AWARE OF THE POWER MUSIC HOLDS.

THERE'S NO SOUND IN MANGA, AND THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE MANGA WHICH TRY TO PORTRAY MUSIC.

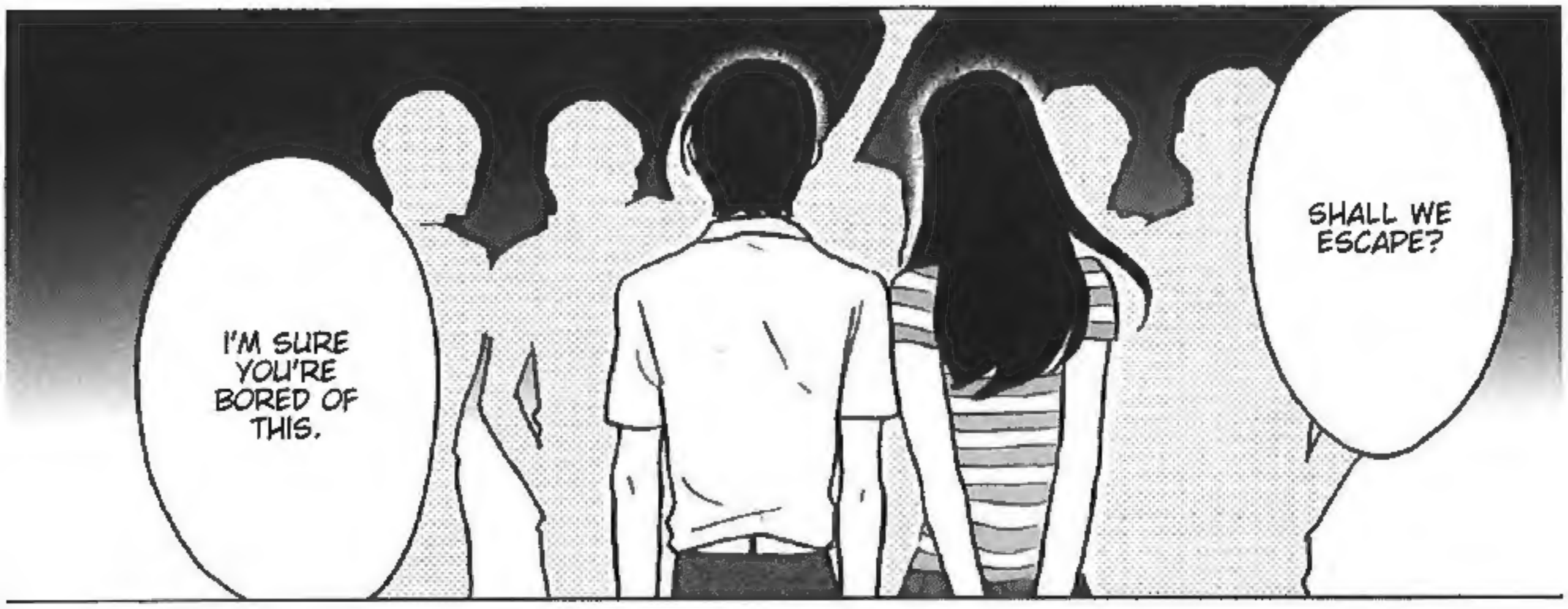
I HOPE THAT I MANAGED TO CONVEY THE LOVE I HAVE FOR MUSIC THROUGH MANGA.

I HOPE THAT WE WILL MEET AGAIN IN VOLUME 9.

Special Thanks To

西本さん 幸多さん さいとうちゃん 前田ちゃん
松本さん 吉田さん 谷さん 稲井さん 半田さん
イグチさん 多久井さん 編集部編プロその他
支えてくれる家族
読者の皆様へ
関係者の皆さん

今回もつてなくてすみません



KAORU GOES TO UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF TOKYO, WHERE EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT TOWN. WHAT GOES ON IN HIS MIND?

WILL THEY CROSS EACH OTHER'S PATHS AGAIN...!?

IN VOLUME 9

HIDDEN AWAY IN THE DEPTHS OF HIS HEART IS THE ONE HE LOVES, SEPARATED BY DISTANCE...

AND THE PERSON WHO WENT AWAY...

IN HIS DAYS AS A MEDICAL STUDENT, WHAT WILL KAORU COME TO KNOW, AND FIND?

COMING SOON!

THE YOUTHS GO THEIR SEPERATE WAYS...

KAORU THINKS THAT SENTAROU WILL NEVER COME BACK.

HE CLOSES HIS HEART TO THE WORLD AND TRIES TO MOVE ON, BUT!?

I CAN'T BE PLAYING AROUND ALL THE TIME.

「坂道のアポロン」

WHILE TRYING TO HIDE HIS FEELINGS, HE HAD HURT RITSUKO.

WILL HIS LOVE FADE OUT AFTER GRADUATION...!?